

Wellington School

Attendance Matters



Advice for parents

My child is trying to avoid coming to school. What should I do

Children are sometimes reluctant to attend school.

- Any problems with regular attendance are best sorted out between the school, the parents and the child.
- If a child is reluctant to attend, it is never better to cover up their absence or to give in to pressure to excuse them from attending. This gives the impression that attendance does not matter, and may make things worse.
- Contact your child's Pastoral Manager immediately and openly discuss your worries.
- Your child could be avoiding school for a number of reasons, such as difficulties with school work, bullying, friendship problems and family difficulties.
- It is important that we identify the reason for your child's reluctance to attend school and work together to tackle the problem.

What can I do to encourage my child to attend School?

Make sure your child gets enough sleep and gets up in plenty of time each morning. Ensure that he/she leaves home in the correct clothes and properly equipped. Show your child, by your interest, that you value his/her education.

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For a child to reach their full educational achievement a high level of school attendance is essential.

Good attendance is important because:

- Statistics show a direct link between underachievement and attendance below **96%**
- Regular attenders make better progress both socially and academically
 - Regular attenders find school routines, school work and friendships easier to cope with
 - Regular attenders find learning more satisfying
 - Regular attenders are more successful in transferring between primary school, secondary school and higher education, employment or training.