

Every family should aim for 100% attendance

96% attendance should be the minimum target for every individual.

90% attendance is equal to:

- Missing half a day every week
- Missing over four weeks of school in the year
- Missing half a year of school over a five year period

So, 90% attendance is not good enough.

Please note that from the start of school year 2015/16 the DfE (Department for Education) set a new persistent absence threshold of 10%

The Wensum Trust Statement on Attendance

“We believe to have truly effective learning,
full attendance is required”

Our Vision

“We believe that full attendance is the key to pupil progress and achievement.”

Absence disrupts learning and makes it difficult for pupils to catch up with the rest of the class. Individual pupils perform much better when they attend regularly; the whole class makes progress when all pupils are good attenders; the entire school is successful with fully attending pupils. Our Trust promote an ethos of good attendance among our pupils from EYFS to Year 13.



The Law

The law states it is the responsibility of the parents/carers to ensure their child attends school every day and arrives on time.

If an absence is not authorised by the school it is illegal. The academy can use fixed finance penalties and the court system for absence without authorisation. (10 consecutive sessions or 15% unauthorised over a six school weeks period)

Punctuality

Arriving on time is very important in order for learning to take place. Our schools expect all our pupils to be punctual and respect the school rules on punctuality.



Illness

The academies must be contacted every day of any illness. Each academy has the right to ask for medical evidence to cover longer absence or repeated absence for illness (e.g. medical certificate, prescription, medication).

Authorised Absence

The school may authorise absence for some areas, including:

- Medical visits (which cannot be arranged out of school time)
 - Religious observance
- Exceptional circumstances (e.g. a family funeral)

Holidays

Government policy states that parents should not take children on holiday in term time.

Fines will be issued by Norfolk County Council.

Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.