



Student Attendance Policy

Attendance Information For Parents

MUST I NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IF MY CHILD HAS BEEN AWAY?

YES : you are required to notify the school of absences as they occur either verbally, or by a written note when your child returns to school.

SHOULD I NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IF MY CHILD REFUSES TO GO TO SCHOOL?

YES : you should contact the Principal and seek assistance immediately.

WHAT KIND OF ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE?

Student Attendance Counsellors are members of professional service to students, parents and/or caregivers and school staff. They aim to assist with the full participation of all students in education. They are based at the District Education Office.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE STUDENT ATTENDANCE COUNSELLOR?

Student Attendance Counsellor may assist by :-

Working with students in a supportive counselling role

Visiting students at home and consulting with parents and/or caregivers

Identifying reasons for student non-attendance and making appropriate referrals

Monitoring student attendance and reviewing progress as necessary.

Beachport Primary School

- Learning sessions are from 8:55am to 3:15pm.
- A teacher is on duty from 8:30am and all teachers are on site.
- If a student is going to be away please ring the school to let us know or send a written note when the child returns. Absence proformas are attached to diaries (Primary Class) and placed in Reading Folders (Junior Primary).
- If a student is late arriving to school please inform the teacher upon arrival.
- The school will contact you if any absence of 2 or more days is unexplained or when regular absences occur.

COMPULSORY ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

Under the Education Act of South Australia, parents and/or caregivers are held responsible for the regular attendance of all children in their care.

All children aged between **6 and 16 years of age** must be enrolled and attend school regularly.

Children under the age of six years, and not under compulsion, are required to attend school for the entire day school is open for instruction, once enrolled.

IS REGULAR ATTENDANCE IMPORTANT?

YES: from the first day!

If students miss the basic skills in the early years of school, they often experience difficulties later. It has been shown that irregular attendance in the early school years can lead to poor patterns of attendance in primary and the high school. Six days absences per term from Junior Primary to end of Year 7 equals one year of schooling missed. Half an hour late each day equals five days absence per term.

There is a direct correlation between attendance and achievement.

MUST I SEND MY CHILD EVERY DAY?

YES: unless

- The child is too sick to attend
- The child has an infectious disease like chicken pox etc
- The child is incapacitated by injury preventing movement around school.
- The child is accompanying his or her parents and/or caregivers on a family holiday, which cannot be arranged in school holidays. This should be arranged with the Principal prior to the absence.
- The Principal is provided with an acceptable reason preventing the child's attendance.