

Things for you to know...

Every school day counts towards your future. Missing school can have a negative affect on your learning, achievement and even wellbeing.

Number of days absent converted to attendance percentages*

- 10 days absence = 95% attendance
- 19 days absence = 90% attendance
- 27 days absence = 86% attendance –
POTENTIAL ATTENDANCE REFERRAL
- 29 days absence = 85% attendance
- 38 days absence = 80% attendance
- 47 days absence = 75% attendance

**calculations based on a school year consisting of 195 days*

Unnecessary days off school – absences maybe unauthorised by the school

There are 175 non-school days a year (including weekends and school holidays) to:

- Spend time with family
- See friends outside of school
- Go on family visits
- Go on holiday
- Celebrate Birthdays
- Go shopping
- Go on days out
- Attend routine appointments e.g. hair appointments

There is no need to miss school time for any of the above.

Missing school to go on holiday can have an impact

Missing 10 days of term-time for a family holiday each year can cause a young person to miss 6 months of their schooling life.

Why is punctuality important?

Being frequently late for school adds up:

- Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 days lost each year
- Arriving 15 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 2 weeks a year (which would equate to 95% attendance)
- Arriving 30 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 19 days a year (which would equate to 90% attendance)

WEEK 1

Attend and ACHIEVE

Regular attendance can help you achieve better grades

Research shows that missing 17 school days per academic year (which equates to 91% attendance) can result in a drop of a GCSE grade across all subjects.

By gaining little or no qualifications young people are 'at risk' of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) by the age of 16.

Cost of truancing to society

'Every year failure to tackle truancy costs the UK economy £800million'; the same as it cost to build Wembley Stadium, or 4x the money RCTCBC has each year to spend on education (including schools).

Prosecutions

In the 2010-2011 school year a total of 12,000 parents were prosecuted and 25 parents were sentenced to prison (across the UK) for failing to send their child to school regularly.

Since the start of the academic year in September 2012 through to April 2013, 62 successful prosecutions have been brought by RCTCBC's AWS. In total, parents were fined £11,724 (along with costs and surcharges) as a result of them failing to send their child to school regularly.

Effects of truancing

If a young person regularly misses school they are:

- More likely to lose school friends and become isolated
- Less likely to develop important skills e.g. communication, interpersonal (i.e. people skills), teamwork and time management
- Less likely to develop routines
- More likely to become involved in anti social behaviour e.g. vandalism and substance misuse. This subsequently has a negative impact on the local community e.g. affecting businesses and complaints from local residents; and the environment e.g. vandalism of local facilities
- More likely to be excluded