



PARENT FACT SHEET #1

ATTENDANCE

Growing · Building · Caring

Skipping school is illegal!

Why is it important for kids to go to school?

EVERY day counts.

1. It's a Legal Requirement

Parents and legal guardians are responsible to
 a) ensure their children attend school
 b) provide an acceptable reason if they can't attend

2. Your Child's Education Matters

If they are away from school, they miss vital learning steps which can impact their long-term education.

1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem much but ...

If you miss ...	That equals ...	Which is ...	And over 13 years, that's ...
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2.5 years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
4 days per week	160 days per year	32 weeks per year	Nearly 10 years

How about 10 minutes late a day? Surely that won't affect my attendance ...

I only miss ...	That equals ...	Which is ...	And over 13 years, that's ...
10 mins per day	50 min per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1/2 a year
20 mins per day	1 hr 40 min per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 mins per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years
1 hour per day	1 day per month	8 weeks per year	Nearly 2.5 years

Is it only classes that are compulsory?

What do I need to do if my child is away?

Contact GBC ASAP

1. Let the school know by **9am** that your child is absent and **why** they are away.

2. You can do this by

- phone
- email
- written note
- in person
- on Compass

Let us know if they can't go ...

All School Activities are Important

Students benefit from every learning opportunity.

- Educational Classes
- Extra-curricular Activities eg. Sports Days
- Excursions, Camps and Trips
- Community Projects eg. Fetes, Fundraising
- Exams
- After School Activities eg. Awards Nights

It's not OK to stay away!

What happens if I don't tell GBC?

1. GBC will contact parent/guardian
2. Try emergency contact, known family/work contact or agencies
3. Visit your home address
4. Contact previous school
5. After 10 days, lodge a Student Whose Whereabouts are Unknown form with Dept of Education.

Keep your details up to date

ACCEPTABLE REASONS

UNACCEPTABLE REASONS

Physical sickness	Holidays or Travel
Mental incapacity	Student birthdays
Direction by principal	Family reunions
Application to home school	Student lethargy/disinterest

Thank you for working with us to make sure that we can provide the best education possible by sending your children to school every day.