

Attendance MATers

Did You Know?...

- More than nine school days missed can lead to disengagement, and cause a student to get off track to graduation.
- By grade six, absenteeism is one of three signs a student may drop out of high school.
- By grade nine, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than grade eight test scores.
- Missing 10 percent, or about 18 days, of a school year can drastically impact a student's academic success.
- Students who were chronically absent in kindergarten and grade one are far less likely to read proficiently at the end of grade three.

What You Can Do

1
Talk about the importance of showing up to school everyday.

Make attendance an expectation.

2
Help your child maintain daily routines.

Expect homework completion, good night's sleep, etc.

3
Don't cause your child to be out of school.

Avoid appointments during school hours, and don't let your child stay home by choice.

Communicate with the School

- Know the school's attendance policy and check on your child's attendance to verify absences are not piling up.
- Talk to teachers if you notice sudden changes in behavior in your child. These changes could be tied to something happening at school.
- If you are having trouble getting your child to school, ask for help from school officials, after school programs, other parents, or community agencies.