

Attendance Matters

every student, on time, everyday

Dear parents and guardians,

Welcome back after the summer holidays.

I wish to take this opportunity to remind you of the important campaign which we will be implementing from today: "Attendance matters - every pupil, on time, every day".

Pre pandemic, Carmarthenshire's Secondary school attendance was **93.5%** and Primary pupils' attendance was **94%**. Parents and carers should be doing absolutely everything they can to ensure their children are in school and that we return to these previous levels of attendance.

A pupil with **80%** attendance is already missing **one** day every week.

As you know, regular attendance is essential for a pupil's wellbeing and learning. When pupils miss school, they miss out on important instruction and learning opportunities. This can lead to gaps in their knowledge and make it more difficult for them to keep up with the rest of the class.

In addition, being late to school can also disrupt your child's learning and the learning of others.

There are many reasons why pupils may miss school or be late. Sometimes, it is due to illness or family emergencies. However, there are also times when pupils miss school or are late because they are not motivated or because they do not see the importance of attending school regularly.

As parents, you play a critical role in helping your child develop good attendance habits.

If you feel that there are situations in your life or your child's life that prevent them from attending school/attending on time, you can get advice and support from your school or the County Council.

The following QR code could be a good starting point if you're looking for simple, practical ideas that could help you and your child improve their attendance and punctuality.

Our desire is that we work together to ensure Carmarthenshire's pupils have the best opportunity to be at school as much as possible. We want our pupils to start building good habits and practices that will stand them in good stead for their future beyond school.

Thank you for all your support and best wishes for the new year.

