

Did you know?

BEST CHANCE OF SUCCESS

100% = 0 weeks of learning missed

95% = 1 week 4 days of learning missed



**IF YOUR CHILD IS AWAY FOR 1 WEEK
THEY WOULD MISS ABOUT**



5 hours of maths

5 hours of literacy

**Or even 10 hours of RE/
music/art/science/P.E./
Geography/history/Design
& Technology and I.T.**



POOR ATTENDANCE

90% - 3 weeks 4 days of learning missed

85% = 5 weeks 3 days of learning missed

VERY POOR ATTENDANCE

80% = 7 weeks 3 days of learning missed

75% = 9 weeks 1 days of learning missed

What should I do if my child is absent?

By law, schools must record absences and the reason given. You are therefore requested to contact school immediately about your child's absence. On their return to school you must then send a note explaining the absence. The school office should be informed in writing of absences known in advance such as dental appointments.

The following schools are all working in partnership:

All Saints C of E Primary School

Great Totham Primary School

Heybridge Primary School

Maldon Primary School

St. Francis RC Primary School

Tollesbury School

Tolleshunt D'Arcy St. Nicholas C of E Primary School

Wentworth Primary School

Woodham Walter C of E Primary School

The Plume School

If you need any further information or support please contact your school.

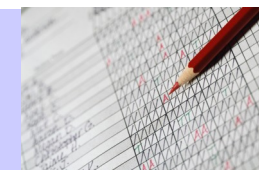
Yvette Brewer

[School Attendance Advisor](#)

Blackwater Primary Schools Partnership
c/o Maldon District Local Delivery Group
Plume School
Fambridge Road
Maldon
Essex
CM9 6AB



Blackwater Primary Schools Partnership



Attendance is important!

Together we can achieve the best for each child

There is advice and support for parents/carers

Establishing good habits from the start

Not being in school affects life opportunities

Discuss with your child what goes on in school

Arriving late can be disruptive for all

Notify the school when your child is absent

Celebrate good attendance

Every day counts!



School Attendance Advisor—Yvette Brewer
Working in partnership with the Blackwater Primary
Schools



How you can help with attendance

How can you support this partnership?

Being at school is a very **important** part of any child's life. It enables them to learn, to make friends, to gain important knowledge and to develop a variety of skills which will prepare them for adult life. School and parents/carers are partners in making this a success. As parents or carers it is **your legal responsibility** to make sure that your child makes the most of this opportunity by attending regularly aiming for at least 95% attendance.

- **Please do not take your child out of school for a holiday.**

New national guidelines mean that we will not be able to authorise such an absence except in exceptional circumstances.

- **Please do not make non-urgent medical appointments during the school day.**
- **Telephone the school as early as possible on each day of absence or lateness. If contact has not been made before s/he returns to school please send a note.**

Together we can ensure that EVERY CHILD MATTERS to enjoy and achieve, be healthy and stay safe, contribute to their local community and achieve a good standard of living by being in school and making every day count!

What is authorised and unauthorised absence?

Only the school can authorise an absence. An explanation given by a parent/carer is not always sufficient for the school to authorise an absence. According to guidelines to schools from the DCSF an absence may only be authorised if the absence is due to :

- Genuine pupil illness
- "Leave" given by the school (this commonly includes medical appointments, and other similar special circumstances)
- The pupil being unable to attend due to unavoidable causes
- Religious observance where applicable.

Absences which the school is not able to authorise include:

- Looking after a relative, pet etc
- A shopping trip
- Day trips
- Birthday
- Lateness after the register has closed, i.e. after 9:15 am
- Being unable to participate in a school activity, e.g. school trip, activity days.
- Remaining at home to wait for deliveries, repair men etc.
- Meeting relatives from/taking relatives to the airport.

Why is good attendance important?

We emphasise to children the need for good attendance.

- We reward good or improved attendance.
- We do not authorise absences without a good reason.
- We try to ring you if your child is absent and we have not heard from you. **Please make sure we know your up-to-date contact details.**
- We monitor attendance carefully and contact you if your child's attendance drops below 95%.
- If attendance problems continue we will ask you to meet us to discuss the way forward. If a number of absences are unauthorised you may be issued with a fixed penalty notice and be given a fine.
- If all measures fail to lead to an improvement in attendance we will refer your child to the Educational Welfare Officer. This may lead to prosecution.

If you have a concern or there is an issue around attendance contact the school. There is advice and support for children and their families.