



Dream. Reach. Achieve.

WISE UP TO ATTENDANCE

Missed days add up quickly

- **Did you know that an attendance of 91% is equivalent to missing 17 days in ONE school year? Missing 17 days is also equivalent to dropping ONE GCSE grade (on average)**
- Both authorised and unauthorised absences can make it more difficult for your child to keep up with other students
- Children will get sick at times and may need to stay at home, but we want to work with you to help minimise the number of days your child misses school.

Work with your child and with us

- As the parent, be strong with your child and don't let your child stay at home when it is not necessary. This will help your child succeed.
- **Call the absence line on 01978 720700 x120, email AbsencesA5@hwbcymru.net or text on 07786200444 on the first day of your child's absence and tell our attendance officer Mrs J. Williams why your child is off and for how long. If your child is off longer than expected, please contact the Mrs J. Williams to update her.**
- **We offer a text messaging service to inform you that your child is absent if we have not heard from you.**
- If your child must miss school, make sure you get his/her homework assignments and follow up to see if the work is completed and submitted.
- Be prepared to get a doctor's note when requested.
- For students with diabetes, asthma or long term health conditions please ensure that school has a designated care plan completed by a parent and his/her doctor. Make sure all supplies (insulin, blood sugar meter, test strips, inhaler etc.) that are needed to manage your child's condition are at school.
- If you have any concerns regarding your child's attendance, please contact Mrs J. Williams our attendance officer on 01978 720700 x 120.
- Complete the absence slip in the pupil planner on the first day your child returns to school.

Helpful Tips

- Make appointments with the doctor or dentist after school or as late in the afternoon as possible so that your child misses the minimum amount of time.
- Ensure that your child arrives in school on time every day. **5 minutes late every day equates to 3 days of school lost a year.**
- Talk to your child about the importance of attending school.

Be Symptoms and illnesses	Should my child go to school?
<p>Chronic disease (asthma, diabetes, epilepsy etc.) Chronic disease is a long lasting condition that can be controlled but not cured.</p>	<p>YES – your child should attend school. A copy of your child’s care plan should be given into school, along with the required medication. School staff are trained to assist your child with his/her needs</p>
<p>Parent is sick, stressed or hospitalised</p>	<p>YES – If you are sick, your child still needs to attend school. Your illness does not excuse your child from attending school.</p>
<p>Child doesn’t want to go to school</p>	<p>YES – your child is to attend school. Try to determine what is causing the changes. Talk to school and consult a health care provider. It may be due to many issues, being in contact with school will ensure that any issues are resolved. If you keep your child off, it may become harder for them to return.</p>
<p>Cold Symptoms - Including a sore throat, headache and mild cough</p>	<p>YES – if your child is able to participate in school activities send him/her to school. Ensure that you send your child in with a bottle of water.</p>
<p>Conjunctivitis - The white of the eye is red and there is a yellow/green discharge.</p>	<p>YES – your child should attend school; contact your doctor if you feel your child might need medication.</p>
<p>Head Lice</p>	<p>YES – your child should attend school. Ensure that your child’s initial treatment for head lice has been completed.</p>
<p>Breaks, Strains, Sprains and Pains</p>	<p>YES – if your child is able to function he/she should be in school. School can provide a modified timetable if required.</p>
<p>Menstrual Issues</p>	<p>YES – most of the time menstrual issues should not be a problem. If they are severe and interfering with your daughter attending school, consult a health care provider whilst ensuring your child attends school.</p>
<p>Vomiting and/or Diarrhoea</p>	<p>NO – keep your child at home until 24 hours have passed since your child has stopped vomiting and/or diarrhoea has stopped.</p>
<p>Severe, Uncontrolled, and Rapid Coughing</p>	<p>NO – keep your child at home and contact your doctor. For children with asthma, provide treatment and contact your doctor if required. Send your child into school as soon as the cough starts to subside.</p>
<p>Rash with a Fever</p>	<p>NO – if the rash spreads quickly, is not healing or has open wounds contact your doctor.</p>
<p>Vaccine preventable diseases - Chickenpox, measles, mumps, rubella, pertussis (whooping cough)</p>	<p>NO – keep your child at home until your doctor has determined that your child is no longer contagious.</p>
<p>Strep Throat – severe swollen tonsils with fever and difficulty swallowing</p>	<p>NO – keep your child at home for the first 24 hours after starting antibiotics. Your child can attend school from the second day.</p>

