Attendance Matters

Children learn and develop more between birth and the age of five than at any other stage of their lives. Research shows that gaps in learning present at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage are likely to widen during a child's primary education. Regular attendance gives children the best possible start to their learning journey.

Benefits of Good Attendance

Developing Good Habits

Regular attendance helps children understand that going to school every day is a normal and important part of life. Children who attend consistently become familiar with routines, gain a sense of security, and develop positive habits that support future success.

Poor attendance is often linked to lower academic achievement. In many cases, patterns of absence can be traced back to the early years. Establishing good attendance habits from Reception onwards is key to supporting children's long-term educational outcomes.





Building Secure Relationships

Children who attend nursery or school regularly find it easier to develop and maintain friendships. Consistent attendance also helps children build strong relationships with staff and feel a greater sense of belonging within the school community.

Increasing Self – esteem

Children who attend regularly and arrive on time are more likely to feel confident and positive about themselves. Those who frequently miss sessions or arrive late can find it more difficult to keep up with activities and conversations, which may affect their confidence and sense of inclusion.

Supporting Learning and development

Children's learning develops rapidly in the Early Years. For example, once phonics teaching begins in Reception, children may learn a new phoneme every day. Missing even a small amount of school can create gaps in knowledge, making it harder for children to keep pace with their peers. Good attendance enables children to make steady progress, build confidence in their abilities, and enjoy their learning as they experience success.



The Impact of Absence

One day absent = approximately 6 hours of learning missed
One week absent = approximately 30 hours of learning missed
11 days absent = 94% attendance and approximately 66 hours of learning missed
19 days absent = 90% attendance, classed as persistent absence, and approximately 114 hours of learning missed.

Every day in school counts and helps children make the most of the opportunities available to them.



How Parents and Carers Can Support Good Attendance.

Parents and carers play a vital role in helping children develop positive attendance habits. You can support your child by:

- Establishing a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Preparing for the school day by packing bags and laying out clothes the night before.
- Talking positively about nursery or school and the exciting learning and activities your child will experience.
- Arranging routine medical appointments, family outings and holidays outside of term time wherever possible.
- Speaking with your child's teacher or key worker if they have any worries, concerns or anxieties about attending school.
- Encouraging good hygiene, healthy eating and regular sleep routines to support your child's wellbeing.

We're Here to Help

We understand that there may be times when families face challenges that affect attendance. If you are experiencing difficulties getting your child into school, please contact us as early as possible.

By working together, we can identify any barriers, offer support and ensure your child receives the best possible start to their education.

We are here to help and support you every step of the way.





If we work together, we can ensure your child reaches their full potential.

Useful Contacts

Headteacher: Mrs Boness

EYFS Class Teacher: Mrs Gray

Telephone: 01909 473992

Email: office@hps.snmat.org.uk



Attendance in the Early Years

Good Attendance Starts Early

Good attendance is essential from the very start of your child's education.

Children only get one chance at school, and attending every day helps them build friendships, develop confidence and make the best possible progress in their learning.

The habits formed in the early years can last a lifetime. Every day counts.

Haggonfields
Primary School