



Pupil Absence Statement 2016-2017

It has always been recognised, in a range of research, that pupils who have good attendance, do better at school than those who miss lots of school.

Attendance is one of the basic skills children need:

- to learn
- to enjoy positive relationships with their peers
- to stay in future employment.

Recent news coverage of parents challenging penalty notices, has led to several questions about possible changes to Plymouth's absence policy. This statement is to describe the expectations of attendance at Stuart Road Primary School.

In our end of year reports, we always tell you of your child's attendance. The expected level of attendance would be 96% or above.

All attendance of 95% and below is reviewed monthly by Mrs Swabey and our Education Welfare Officer – Mrs Maxine Naismith. Unusual patterns, or attendance below 90%, will be followed up by letters, a phone call or a visit from Mrs Naismith. For families with unauthorised attendance or attendance below 90% (and not improving) legal warning letters are given.

But what does low or poor attendance look like?

96% attendance means your child has missed seven and a half days of school in a year.

95% attendance means your child has missed nine and a half days of school in a year.

85% attendance means your child has missed twenty-eight days (a month) of a school year.

92% attendance over your child's whole school career (5 to 16) is equivalent to a whole year out of school.