



Fisk Street Primary School

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Fisk Street Primary School

Attendance Policy

Government preschools and schools in South Australia are committed to educational excellence. Parents/caregivers, preschools and schools work in partnership to provide children and students with learning opportunities that will provide a solid foundation for the future.

Children and students need to maximise attendance at preschool and school to gain optimum benefit from education. Ensuring regular attendance at preschool and school is a shared responsibility between parents/caregivers, preschools and schools.

Research shows that success in learning is directly proportional to regular attendance and participation in education programs.

Non-attendance and irregular attendance can be viewed as early indicators of the potential for disengagement from the education program. There is a correlation between under-achievement in primary school and non-attendance in later years and consequently lack of success in adult life. Absence from school can limit a student's achievement of essential knowledge and skills required for effective participation in work, relationships, families and active citizenship. DECD, together with other government agencies and the community share a responsibility to support young people's regular attendance at school.

The Education Act 1972 (the Act) provides for compulsory attendance of any child required to be enrolled at the school for which she or he has been enrolled on every day, and for such parts of every day, as instruction is provided at the school for the child (subsection 76(1)) between the ages of 6 and 16 years.

Aim:

For students to attend school on every day school programs are offered, except if an appropriate reason is provided to the school.

Responsibilities:

Student:

- Attend school daily
- Be punctual on arrival to school
- Engage appropriately in education programs

Parent/Caregiver:

- Inform the school of any medical conditions, developmental milestones or family issues that may impact on attendance
- Enable your child to attend punctually and regularly everyday
- Provide explanation to the school whenever your child is absent
- Work with the school and outside agencies on intervention strategies to improve attendance (when required)

School:

- Provide education programs that engage all learners, to encourage regular attendance
- Record attendance/absences according to DECD standards
- Provide intervention strategies to increase school attendance
- Implement school attendance procedure
- Work with outside agencies to improve student attendance

Absence process:

If a Fisk Street Primary School student is absent for part of or a whole day, reason must be given. This can be done through contacting the school either:

- Face to face: Come in and see front office staff
- Phone call: Call the school on (08) 8645 8842
- Text message: Text the school mobile on 0407 619 351
- Written note: Given to the student to hand to the front office or classroom teacher

However, if there is no explanation given a phone call will be made home, on the day of absence, from front office administration to attain absent reason.

Please note: Temporary exemptions of up to one calendar month can be granted by the Principal. Any exemptions exceeding one month need to be approved through Regional Office.