



An Independent Public School

Kindy Attendance Leaflet

***The importance of good attendance on
your child's early learning.***

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ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

At our school we are both highly sympathetic to, and very understanding of, legitimate illness among our students.

The research below indicates that good attendance habits established in the early years of schooling translate to successful learning beginning with Kindy.

“Student Attendance and Educational Outcomes; Every Day Counts” was prepared for the Department of Education by the *Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, UWA* in May 2013.

The report was based on the attendance patterns of some 415 000 Government school students in WA. It tables some interesting points.

KEY FINDINGS

1. Disparities in attendance rates are evident from early schooling.

The data indicates that attendance rates further diminish in secondary school. It is critical that good attendance patterns are established in the early years, particularly kindy. If good attendance is not established early, then the data says that a child’s high school attendance will be further reduced. A good start is imperative to future success.

2. In all analyses, average academic achievement on NAPLAN tests declined as absence rates increased.

This was evident across all sub groups ie nationality, gender, transience, socio-economic status etc. Every day of attendance contributes positively toward a child's learning. Absence from school was related to poor academic achievement, not only in the current year but in future years as well. Gaps in student learning from one poor year of attendance have a flow on effect in future years.

3. Educators cannot improve attendance alone.

The community needs to be included. The community needs to recognise the importance of education. Achieving this can be done by students only being absent for valid illnesses. Absences for *birthdays, holidays in term time, appointments that could be done out of hours, for a day of rest after a busy weekend etc*, are not legitimate reasons for non-attendance at school.

Please support your child by advising the school of non-attendance and by ensuring that your child attends regularly. If there are any issues that impact upon your child's attendance please contact the school so that we are able to support you.

