

SUGAR VALLEY RURAL CHARTER SCHOOL

236 East Main Street • Loganton, PA 17747 phone: (570)725-7822 • fax: (570)725-7825 web: www.svrcs.org • email: svrcs@svrcs.org • twitter: @svrcs

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Welcome back! Here is a general overview of attendance requirements that apply to SVRCS from the state and county.

- Children are required to attend school from age 6 to age 18 or time of graduation
- If a student is absent, a parent/guardian has 3 school days to provide an excuse, if an excuse is not received within that time the absences is unexcused, excuses can be emailed to **attendance@svrcs.org**
- Parents are allowed to write excuses for 10 days within a school year, once that limit is met an excuse from a doctor is required
- The law stipulates that the following reasons are considered to be **excused absences**:
 - Illness of the student
 - Death in the immediate family (3 days)
 - Quarantine
 - Emergency directly affecting the student
 - Recovery from an accident or surgery
 - Court requirements
 - Religious holidays
 - Educational trips (Educational trips will be approved to a maximum of 7 days within the school year, any requests that exceed 7 days will be and become an unexcused absence. Trips will not be approved during the PSSA for grades 3-8 based on the current year's testing window and during the Keystone testing window)
 - Out of school suspensions
 - Proof of attendance for PA Driver's Examination
- The law stipulates that the following reasons are considered to be **unexcused absences**:
 - Vehicle problems
 - Vacations
 - Missing the bus
 - Oversleeping
 - Helping or caring for family members/ babysitting
- When a student has 2 unexcused absences, a letter is mailed home to notify parents
- When a student has 3 unexcused absences, a letter is mailed home with a scheduled meeting notification
- A student with 6 or more unexcused absences will be considered **habitually** truant. At this point the student will be referred to county children and youth agency and/or a citation may be filed with the court.

Please call 570-725-7822 or email <u>attendance@svrcs.org</u> with any questions you may have.