

Why Attendance is Important

All children deserve a quality education to prepare them for the challenges of the world. Young people who do not attend school regularly are more likely to drop out of school and are at a higher risk of becoming involved in behaviors that can further hinder their futures. Additionally, the lack of a high school diploma reduces employment opportunities and lowers wage earning potential.



Contact Us

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It's the law...

School attendance is required by Georgia law for children between ages 6 and 16.



O.C.G.A. 20-2-690.1

Read more about attendance policies in your child's student handbook.

Miller County School
Teaching Children, Ensuring Success

What is Truancy?

Definition of Truant

Any child subject to compulsory attendance who during the school calendar year has more than five days of UNEXCUSED absences.

Examples of Lawful Excuses

- Personal illness
- Serious illness or death in immediate family
- Religious holidays
- Family emergency
- Hazardous conditions

Examples of Unexcused Absences

- Missing the bus
- Oversleeping
- Staying home to babysit or work
- Family trips

What to do when your child is absent...

When a child is absent from school, the parent must furnish the school a written excuse within **THREE (3)** school days of the absence.



Tardies and Early Sign-outs



Regular and frequent tardies, lunch sign-outs and early sign-outs can also be detrimental to your child's education. It is important to be at school for the entire school day. Some schools may have disciplinary consequences for excessive tardies and sign-outs.

Partnership

Good attendance, like most other aspects of schooling, requires a strong partnership between the school and home. Motivated by a concern for student safety and welfare, each school has staff dedicated to monitoring student attendance. Teachers, counselors and administrators want to work together with parents to eliminate barriers to student attendance.



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Tips for Parents

- Make your child's education a family priority.
- Be an advocate for your child.
- Do not allow your child to stay home from school for unexcused reasons.
- Know and follow the school's and school district's attendance policies.
- Make sure your child has a regular bedtime and gets plenty of rest each night.
- If your child does not want to attend school, talk with him or her and solve problems together.
- If your child refuses to go to school, contact the school and ask for help.
- Be actively involved in your child's education.