

# Our School Attendance Guide for Parents

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## Our Aims

At Rossett Acre Primary School, we believe that every child deserves the best possible start in life. By working together on attendance, we aim to:

- Ensure children feel a **strong sense of belonging** in their class and school community.
- Build **connections and friendships** that support wellbeing and learning.
- Give every child the opportunity to achieve their **full potential**.

 We use the **One Life PSHE approach** to support belonging, connectedness, and healthy routines for children and families.

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## Why Attendance Matters

Every school day counts! Children who attend regularly:

-  Build strong friendships
-  Keep up with their learning
-  Develop good habits for life

Even a few days missed can add up and make it harder for your child to catch up.

 Our **One Life PSHE approach** also helps families to support healthy sleep, wellbeing, and daily routines.

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## Our Expectations

 **Aim for 95% attendance or above** – that means no more than about 9 days absent in a year.

 **Be on time every day** – doors open at *8:40am* and learning starts promptly at *9:00am*.

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## Did You Know?

Attendance percentages can sound small, but here's what they really mean over a year (based on 190 school days):

#### Attendance (%) Days Absent Weeks Lost Lessons Missed (approx)

<b>95%</b>	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
<b>90%</b>	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
<b>85%</b>	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
<b>80%</b>	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
<b>75%</b>	50+ days	9–10 weeks	250 lessons

 Being just **5 minutes late each day** adds up to **3½ days lost** over a year.

 Being **15 minutes late each day** equals almost **2 weeks lost**.

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## Absences – What You Need to Do

 **If your child is unwell:** Please call the school office by *9:00am* each day of absence.

 **Medical appointments:** Try to book outside school hours. If that's not possible, bring an appointment card or letter.

 **Holidays during term time:** We cannot authorise holidays. Absence requests should be submitted in writing and will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

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## When to Keep Your Child at Home

Children can often still come to school with minor coughs, colds, or tiredness. Keep them home if they have:

 A high temperature

 Vomiting or diarrhoea (must stay home for 48 hours after the last episode)

 A contagious illness (e.g., chickenpox)

If unsure, call the office – we're here to help.

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## Punctuality

 Arriving late means missing valuable learning and can unsettle your child.

 If you arrive after *9:00am*, please sign in at the office.

 Our **One Life PSHE approach** also supports families with strategies for healthy morning routines.

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## How We Support Good Attendance

We know things aren't always easy. We're here to work with you, not against you. We can:

-  Offer advice on morning routines
-  Support with travel or punctuality issues
-  Meet with you if attendance becomes a concern, to find solutions together

We also encourage a strong sense of **connection and belonging** so that children are happy and motivated to come to school each day. 

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## Supporting Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA)



Sometimes children may struggle with coming to school because of **anxiety, worries, or emotional challenges**. This is called *Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA)*.

If this happens, we will:

- Work closely with you and your child to understand their worries.
- Provide a safe space in school where they feel supported.
- Use step-by-step plans to help them return and stay in school.
- Involve pastoral staff, the SEN team, or external services if needed.
- Focus on building **confidence, resilience, and belonging**.

Our **One Life PSHE approach** underpins this support, promoting wellbeing and positive connections. 

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## Celebrating Attendance

We love to celebrate children who come to school regularly and on time!

-  Weekly class awards for best attendance
  -  Certificates and special recognition for excellent attendance
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## Working Together

Good attendance is a partnership between school and home. By working together, we can make sure your child feels a sense of **belonging, connection, and success** at school.

♥ If you ever need support, please reach out to our attendance team.

👉 Our **One Life PSHE approach** is here to support every family in building positive, healthy routines and connections.