

How you can help:

- ✓ Recognise that children feel uncomfortable coming into class late as it gives them an unsettled start to the day
- ✓ Value education and recognise the importance of good attendance and timekeeping
- ✓ Organise your routine so that your child arrives and is collected on time every day
- ✓ Avoid appointments during school time if at all possible
- ✓ Consider the effect on other children who are always on time - their learning is being disrupted while the teacher deals with late-comers.



If you need support with any aspect of attendance please contact Mrs Hutchison.

Aitkenbar Primary School



Attendance and Punctuality

A guide for parents



Aitkenbar Primary School

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Phone: 01389 773901

Website: <http://www.scottishschools.info/aitkenbar>

Why is good attendance at school important?

Regular attendance at school gives your child the best chance to develop good learning habits and positive attitudes. It prevents children having gaps in their learning and gives them the chance to achieve their full potential.

If a child is frequently absent they can begin to feel isolated and may find friendships difficult.

Where absence cannot be avoided, please phone the school office as early as possible to let us know that your child will not be at school (773901). If you do not phone us, we will contact you to make sure your child is safe.

Why is it important for children to be in school on time?

- Children spend such a short time in class so every minute counts
- The best time for learning is first thing in the morning
- The teacher often issues important instructions at the start of the school day
- Most children do not enjoy being late for school or being left at the end of the day waiting to be collected without knowing why
- Some classes can be interrupted several times every day while the teacher deals with late-comers - this has a detrimental effect on all the children in the class

Late coming



Of the 24 hours in each day, children spend only 5 hours in school with their teachers so...

EVERY MINUTE MATTERS...

When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...	therefore, over 7 years that is...
10 minutes a day	50 minutes of learning each week	almost one and a half weeks per year	more than $\frac{1}{2}$ of a year at school
20 minutes a day	one hour and 40 minutes of learning each week	more than 2 and a half weeks per year	almost half a year of learning lost
$\frac{1}{2}$ an hour a day	$\frac{1}{2}$ a day of learning a week	almost 4 weeks of learning lost per year	more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of a year's learning lost
1 hour a day	one whole day of learning each week	almost 8 weeks of learning lost per year	almost a year and a half of learning lost year

A child's best learning time is at the beginning of the day. Late-coming affects ALL the children in the class as learning is often interrupted while the teacher deals with late-comers.



School starts at 9 o'clock!

What should my child do if lateness cannot be avoided?

The back gates are locked just after 9 o'clock.

Your child must come in by the front door and report to the Aitkenbar office so that their attendance can be marked.

Bell times:

- (8:15am Breakfast Club opens)
9:00am Morning session starts
1:00pm Afternoon session starts

