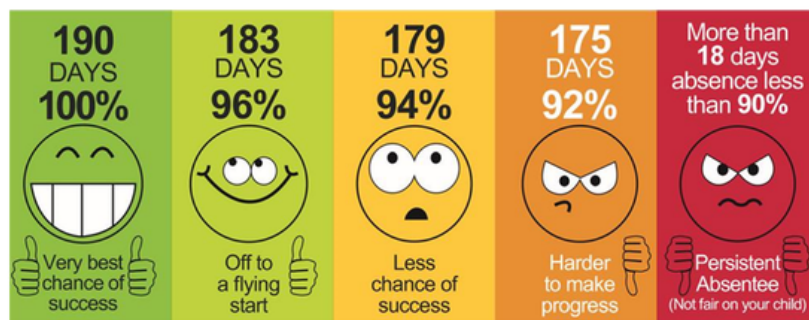


Attendance Newsletter September 2026

Here's to an excellent start for attendance in the new school year!

As always, thank you to all families for working with us to ensure that all children have the best possible attendance and punctuality.

There are **190** days in a school year which leaves **175** days to spend on family time, shopping, appointments and other things.



Support with Attendance and Punctuality

School will always aim to support families where there are barriers to attending school. This is part of our multi-tiered approach.

Contact From School

Class Teachers, Mrs Newton, Mrs Macpherson, Mrs Graham or Mrs Pedley may contact you to talk about attendance or punctuality or ask you to come into school, in order to discuss ways to support your child into school.

Anxiety

Many children may feel anxious about coming into school, especially during the beginning of the school year. If you feel that your child is experiencing this emotion, please speak to a member of the team for ideas to support your child and family.

Previous Years Attendance

2024-2025 – 95.2%

2025-2026 – 94.6%

Attendance throughout last academic year was improving during both Autumn and Spring terms. During the Summer term, the heatwave was the main contributor and negatively impacted our attendance percentage for the year.

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Contact Information

Phone: 01922 710613
postbox@woodlands.walsall.sch.uk

Miss School Miss What?

Children who miss a day in the first week of school are 40% more likely to become Persistent Absentees.

Reminder About Absence Procedures

- Please inform the school office by 8:30 if your child is going to be absent from school.
- Please be ready to provide medical evidence such as medication or appointment letters.
- Please try to arrange appointments out of school hours where possible.
- If there is no contact from you, then one of the office team will contact you to find out the reason for absence.
- The office team may contact you at the end of the day or on a later day, to see if any support is needed for your child to be in school the next day.
- Mr Fischer may visit you whilst your child is ill, for a safe and well visit and to offer any support.

What is the Impact of Low Attendance on Our Children?

At primary school, children who attend nearly every day in Year 6 (95-100% attendance) have 30% higher odds of reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to similar pupils who attend 90-95% of the time.

Persistently absent pupils in secondary school could earn £10,000 less at age 28 compared to pupils with near-perfect attendance.

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Appointments

We politely ask that any appointments are made (where possible), during out of school hours, either after school or during school holidays. We understand that some appointments can't be changed and timings in school can't be avoided but if they can, this will ensure that no learning is lost for your child. You will be allowing them to continue to engage in the work without feeling unsure or that they have missed something.

Each block of learning is important and if one is lost, then it is very difficult to catch up or continue without one or more of those blocks.

Punctuality Reminders

8:40 Doors Open

8:50 Gates closed Children will need to go through the main office and will be recorded as late. Please sign in with your reason for being late.

8:50 – 8:55 Registers taken.

Even though children are not due in until 8:50, learning begins as soon as the main doors open.

Having children in school on time allows them to get settled for the day ahead.