

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

COMPULSORY ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

Under the Education Act of South Australia, parents and/or carers are held responsible for the regular attendance of all children in their care. All children aged between 6 and 16 years of age must be enrolled and attend school regularly.

CHILDREN MUST ATTEND SCHOOL UNLESS:

- Your child is too sick to attend.
- Your child has an infectious disease (i.e. impetigo, chicken pox, mumps, measles, etc.).
- The child is incapacitated by injury preventing movement around the school.
- Your child is accompanying you on a family holiday. Please fill in an 'Application for exemption from school attendance' form (ED175) available at front office.
- The Principal is provided with an acceptable reason preventing the child's attendance.

AT BRIDGEWATER PRIMARY SCHOOL:

- A teacher is on duty from 8:30 am. If students arrive at school prior to 8:30 am, they must be booked into 'Before School Care'.
- Students need to arrive early enough so they can prepare for learning in their Learning Area before 8:50 am.
- A teacher is on duty from 3:15 pm to 3:30 pm. Students that have not been collected by 3:30 pm report to the front office and then attend 'After School Care'.
- If a student is late for school (after the bell at 8:50 am) they must report to the Front Office to sign in and collect a 'Late Pass' to show home group teacher.
- The school will contact parents if an absence is unexplained.
- We are concerned if students find it difficult to attend school, please make arrangements to meet with the Principal so the issue can be discussed and a plan put in place.

MUST I NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IF MY CHILD WILL BE ABSENT?

Yes: All parents are required to provide an explanation (written or verbal) for every absence of their child. Every parent has signed an agreement with the school that states that they will contact the school before 9.00 am if their child is sick or unable to attend.

SHOULD I NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IF MY CHILD REFUSES TO GO TO SCHOOL?

Yes: You should contact the Front Office or Principal to seek assistance immediately. Student Attendance Counsellors are members of professional teams providing a supportive service to students, parents/carers and school staff. They aim to assist with the full participation of all students in education.

LATENESS

Arriving late at school can have a serious effect on a student's education.

The student: Students who often arrive late can be disadvantaged in a number of ways. They may feel embarrassed or awkward because they feel different. They miss instructions, information and knowledge about what is happening for the day. They start off the day unsettled, and often in a negative frame of mind. They can take a while to settle down and become positive about their learning. Arriving on time is good training for life.

Other Students: Students arriving late have an unsettling effect on the rest of the group, which is discussing daily organisational matters and routines.

We realise that at times crisis occur and lateness cannot be avoided. We seek your help in making arrangements so students arrive at school on time on a regular basis.