



Attendance Statement from the Governing Bodies & Headteachers of Petersfield Area Local Schools (PALS)

All schools emphasise the importance of high and-regular attendance. If young people are not in school, they are not learning and cannot make good progress.

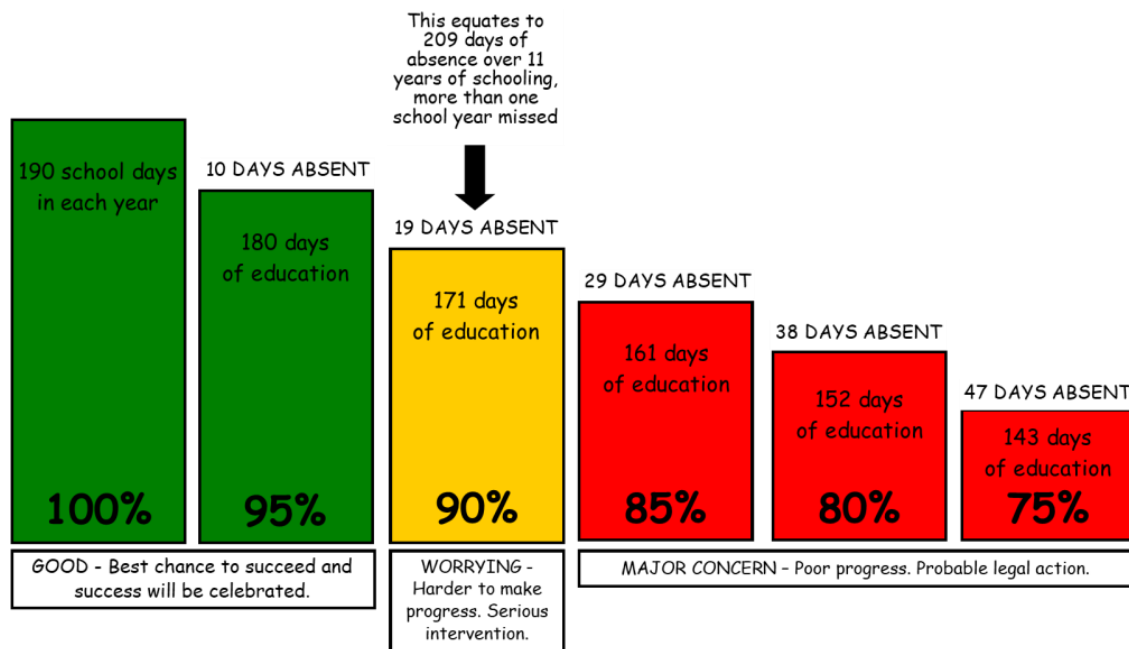
We believe that excellent attendance is essential for a child's education to be successful. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their child attends school. We thank those parents who ensure that attendance is above 95%. Absence from school should only occur in the extreme of circumstances and holidays taken in term time will not be authorised.

- 95% as a minimum is an acceptable level for progress not to be adversely affected.
- A 90% attendance rate results in 18 days of lost education, with 29 days lost at 85% and with 80% equating to a half term of learning missed.

All the schools in the Petersfield area want our young people to develop into confident, resilient and respectful citizens. It is important that we all work together to achieve this and we expect parents/carers to support the procedures of good attendance outlined in this document. The vast majority of parents/carers support schools in what schools are trying to achieve with regards to attendance. Where it is necessary parents/carers will be referred to this document when it is clear that support is not forthcoming.

What is excellent attendance?

The graph clearly shows what all schools expect in terms of excellent attendance. 90% attendance is not good enough; it needs to be 95% and above.



How does attendance affect progress?

There is a direct correlation between excellent attendance and student outcomes. Attendance below 95% can adversely affect the academic progress of your child and limit their social development as they have reduced access to activities that promote this. Those who have 95% and better attendance **make significantly positive progress**.

Those students with under 95% attendance do not make as much progress as those with similar abilities across the country while those with 80% attendance make significantly **less progress** than those of similar ability across the country. There are always exceptions to this but overall the statistics really reinforce and clearly show that attendance matters. If a child is not in school, they are not learning and can get left behind.

How can you encourage good attendance?

- Expect your child to go to school and ensure that your child knows this.
- Ask your child about their day at school and talk about what they might be doing in the future at

