

Wheatley Area Learning Partnership (WALP) Attendance Statement

Being around teachers and friends in a school environment is the best way for pupils to learn and reach their potential. As a local partnership of schools, we are committed to working together on attendance as we firmly believe that being at school every day is a really important part of succeeding in education and in life. Improving attendance is everyone's responsibility and we collaborate closely as a partnership in promoting attendance and supporting families to identify and address challenges.

Attendance is important because:

1. All young people have the right to full time education. Schools have a legal duty to ensure that they take up this right.
2. Regular attendance and punctuality is absolutely key to pupil achievement. They cannot achieve if they are absent from school.
3. Poor attendance impacts children's mental health, including lower self-esteem and poorer social skills leading to pupils becoming isolated from their friends. This may result in unsettled behaviour, separation difficulties and increased anxiety. Increased anxiety about attending school can lead to additional stress for parents.
4. Positive attitudes towards attendance enable pupils to maximise their opportunities both in school and in later life.

