



Attendance Matters

Why Attend Every Day?

At Whitemoor Academy, we believe that attendance is directly linked to achievement and helps develop skills

Here is an example on how regular non attendance can build up.

MON		TUE		WED		THUR		FRI	

Stephen is a fictional child in Year 2.

His attendance rate is 90%. His parents think this is quite good.

Stephen is absent for the equivalent of **one half day per week**.

In Year 2 Stephen's attendance rate means that he missed the equivalent of **four whole weeks** of lessons in the school year. If Stephen continues to attend for only 90% of the time, then over five years he will miss 20 weeks.

Our School Attendance Target is:

96%

....Every Minute Counts!

How many children are currently persistently absent from school?

As of 16th May 2025

Persistent Absence is at

7.1%

To make satisfactory progress and establish good relationships with others, children must attend school regularly.

What am I missing?

Attendance During one school year	Equates to days absent	Which is approximately	Which means the number of lessons missed in a year
94%	10 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons

Arriving at School on Time

5 minutes late each day	3 days lost!
10 minutes late each day	6.5 days lost!
15 minutes late each day	10 days lost!
20 minutes late each day	13 days lost!
30 minutes late each day	19 days lost!

ATTENDANCE %

Week ending: 16.5.25



CLASS 1: 96.7%

CLASS 2: 94.6%

CLASS 3: 97.0%

CLASS 4: 97.5%



If your child is absent from school without authorisation, you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £80 if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid after this but within 28 days.

If your child is further absent from school without authorisation within any 3- year period, you will be committing a further offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices for a second offence are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £160, payable within 28 days.

Importantly, fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action such as a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may also result in legal action. If you are prosecuted and attend court because your child has not been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

Absence not authorised by the school may also result in a prosecution in the Magistrates' Court under Section 444(1) or Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996, leading to a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a custodial sentence. Again, Penalty Notices Process Requirements for Schools 19 August 2024 Information Classification: CONTROLLED Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

Money raised from fines is only used by the local authority to cover the costs of administering the system, and to fund attendance support. Any extra money is returned to the government.