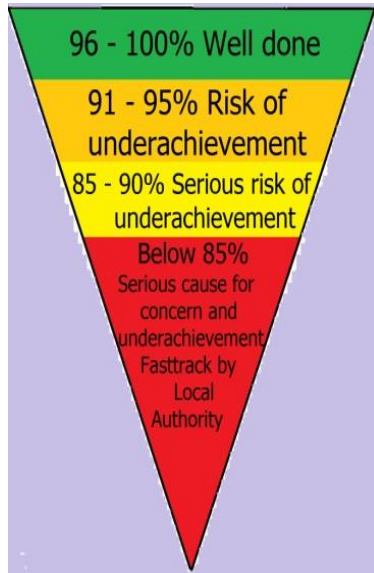


Be Present & Prepared

Attendance Scale



Teacher effectiveness is the strongest school-related determinant of student success, but chronic student absence reduces even the best teacher's ability to provide learning opportunities. Students who attend school regularly have been shown to achieve at higher levels than students who do not have regular attendance. This relationship between attendance and achievement may appear early in a child's school career. A recent study looking at young children found that absenteeism in kindergarten was associated with negative first grade outcomes such as greater absenteeism in subsequent years and lower achievement in reading, math and general knowledge.

Excuse Note Form (Link):

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1F0ZhNhKhSlthljzZz80Rs9SEgLo1Q5dHcdGt-QDA6L0/edit>

Westerly Hills Academy

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Attendance Matters...

Westerly Hills Academy

Regular school attendance is critical to academic success and to student's social/ emotional development. Absences impact the number of instructional hours that students receive and may result in poor test scores, failing grades, disengagement from the school environment, and, ultimately can lead to students dropping out of school.

Start your child's success by getting them to school each day, on time.



“Best Practice” Interventions/Procedures to Improve Attendance

- Phone call will be made by the teacher, attendance secretary or School Social Worker after the 3rd tardy.
- Teachers will call when attendance concerns arise **and** after the 2nd **consecutive** absence from school.
- Home visit will be made by someone from the Attendance Team after the 3rd consecutive or 6th day of total Absences (pending outcome of parent responsiveness and improved attendance).
- Parent conference can be arranged for families that have a history of truancy.
- Attendance/on time contract with parents and students.
- Truancy mediation will occur on a case by case basis. This will be determined on non-compliance with the NC Compulsory Attendance Law.
- File petition after the 10th unexcused absence, if deemed necessary.
- Other interventions as deemed appropriate.

Attendance Facts/Figures

- 10 minutes late to school each day = 33 hours lost in one year
- Your child being late disturbs the whole class from learning
- 90% attendance through school life is equal to a whole year of school being missed!
- Having good routines helps your child get into good patterns for the future.

Tips

- Make sure your child understands why school is important
- Show your child that you are interested in what they have done at school
- Get everything ready the night before school
- Arrange appointments before or after school or during breaks.
- Set your alarm and your child’s alarm

attendance
MATTERS

Every Child. Every Day. For a Better Tomorrow.

Submitting Excuse Notes

The absences listed below are considered excused **once school personnel have received written verification of the absence:**

- Illness/Injury of student
- Doctor/Dentist Appointment
- Death in the immediate family
- Court or Administrative Proceedings
- Quarantine
- Religious Holiday (Must be approved in advance)
- Approved educational opportunity (Form 5123.21,

All other absences not listed above are **unexcused.

North Carolina Compulsory Attendance Law:

According to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education Policy JHBB and the NC Compulsory Attendance Law (N.C. G.S.-115C-378), a parent may be prosecuted in a criminal action if a student between the ages of 7 and 16 has more than 10 unexcused absences. The maximum penalty provided by law upon conviction is 120 days imprisonment, and/or a fine of \$200, at the discretion of the judge. In addition, a child between the ages of 7 and 16 could be referred by the school to the Department of Juvenile Justice for the filing of a petition asking the court to find the child to be undisciplined. A notification letter is sent indicating that legal action will be taken when a student has 10 unexcused absences. A student must attend school for at least half a day to be counted present.