

Child Absences

If your child will be absent for any reason, please phone or email the kindergarten, especially if they have are unwell and have a contagious infection. If you know your child will be absent in advance please put this in writing to staff.

It is important if your child is unwell that they stay at home. When your child starts kindergarten it can seem that they are often unwell, particularly if they haven't accessed child care or other services where they are in contact with lots of other children, however it is important to keep them home if they are unwell this will allow them to recover and assist in avoiding the spread of infection.

An Important Note about Attendance

Regular attendance at kindergarten is important for many reasons:

- ❑ Children will develop regular patterns of attendance, which will follow through to school and later on in their work life
- ❑ Regular attendance helps children to develop and maintain relationships with other children and staff
- ❑ Children will develop a strong sense of belonging and a connectedness to the kindergarten community
- ❑ Children feel more secure when they have familiar predictable routines
- ❑ Regular attendance ensures that children are able to fully engage in the educational program
- ❑ Children will learn the value of kindergarten and education in their lives

Research shows that when parents recognise the value of kindergarten and education in general, children are more likely to attain greater benefits and reach their full potential.

Raising attendance levels is a priority for the Department for Education and Child Development. We know that when children attend regularly, their engagement in the curriculum improves and so does their learning. Once your child is enrolled at kindergarten it is expected that they will attend their enrolled sessions each day unless they are sick.

We understand there are circumstances that make it difficult for your child to attend sometimes, eg illness, however, please make every effort to ensure that your child attends their entitled session when possible.