



Attendance and Lateness Policy



Every Day Counts

Brunton First School has a good attendance record of 96%. As a school we need to do all we can to enable all our children to reach their potential. Having good attendance ensures your child has the opportunities to reach their potential.

Did you know?

There are only **190** school days each year, that means there are **175** days not at school for other activities such as holidays.

When a child is absent from school he or she misses not only the day's learning but also may find it difficult to follow the next day's learning. Obviously if your child is unwell then we would not expect them to be at school but all other absences need to be kept to a minimum.

The Government has made amendments to the 2006 term time holiday regulations. The amendments remove references to family holiday and extended leave, as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make clear that **headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.**

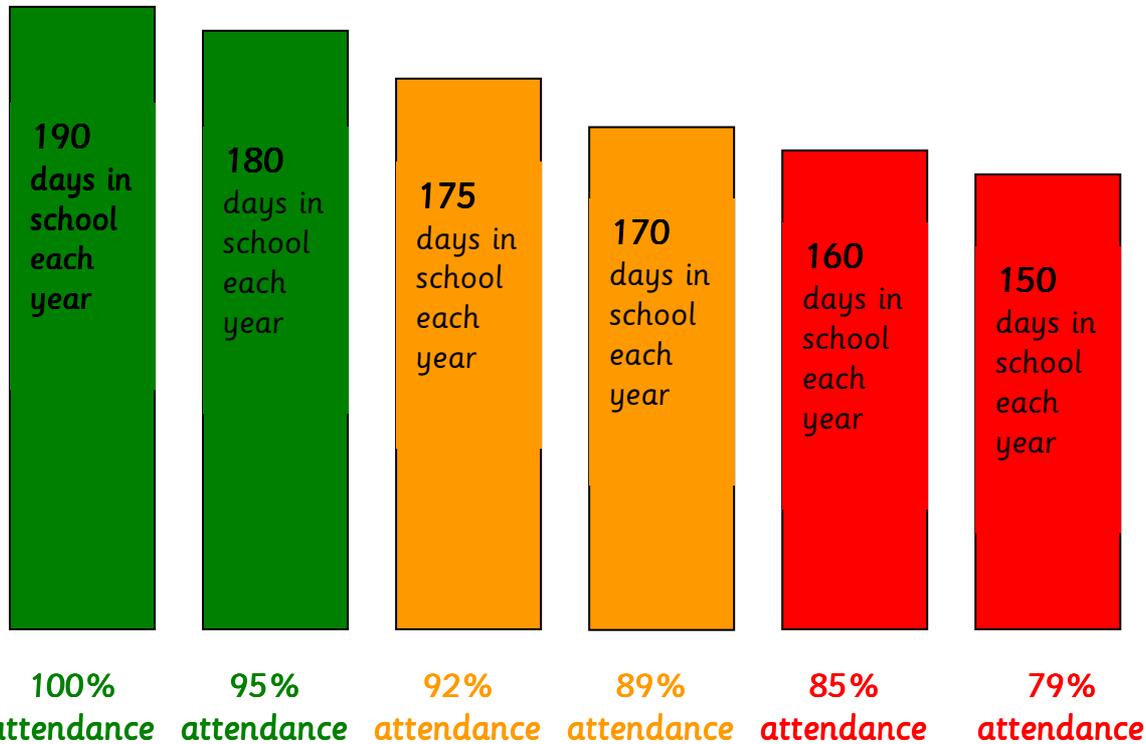
The governors have taken the decision that absence will not be authorised except in exceptional circumstances which will be considered on an individual basis.

We recognise that it is often expensive to take a holiday during school breaks and that is why some parents may ask for term time leave for their child. However it is important that parents carefully consider the implications of taking their child out of school during term time.

Any absence that has not been discussed with the school will be counted as unauthorised. Schools are now legally required to record, as a specific category, all absences that occur. If children are absent for more than 10 days then a penalty notice (a £60 fine) can be issued by the local authority to the parent/carer.

Good Attendance means.....

being in school at least 95% of the time
(between 180 and 190 days)



Best chance of success

Poor attendance – less chance of success

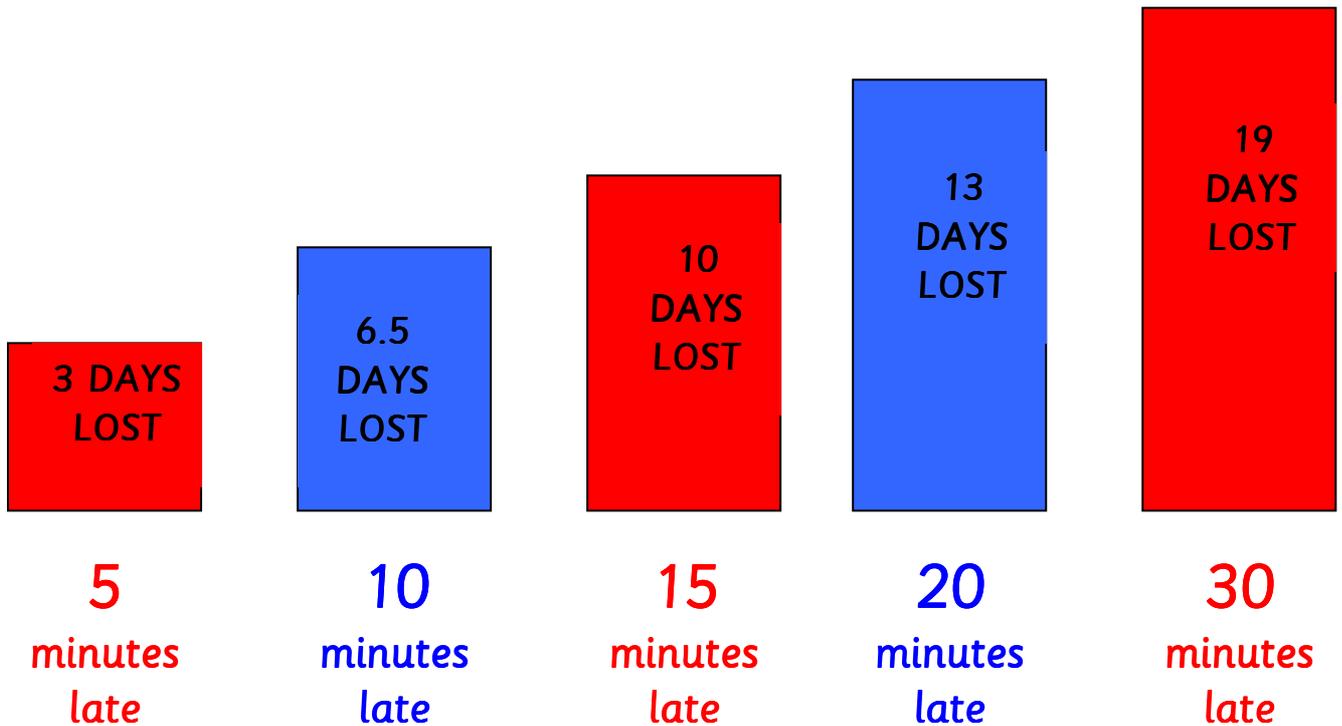
Very poor attendance – 85% and lower is classed as persistent absenteeism – a serious impact on education

To help your child do well in school, you should:

- Arrange family holidays and extended trips to coincide with school holidays wherever possible
- Always ask the school for permission well in advance
- If you have to go in term time and have unauthorised absence try to use part of the school holidays within your family holiday

Good Timekeeping Matters

Did you know that being 15 minutes late each day is the same as missing two weeks of school over the academic year



Please try to ensure your child is in school at 8.50 for registration. If your child is late then they miss the beginning of their learning. Lost minutes add up. Registers close at 9.10am and so if your child is late they will receive a late after the registers have closed mark. This does not give your child a good start to their days learning.

EVERY DAY COUNTS
but every minute is important

LOST MINUTES = LOST LEARNING