



# Regular school attendance

## Information for parents and carers

Did you know? Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance at school is associated, on average, with higher student achievement.

### Why is regular attendance at school important?

Regular school attendance will mean that your child has a better chance in life. Your child will achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day.

- they learn better
- they make friends
- they are happier
- they have a brighter future.

### Why must I send my child to school?

Under Queensland law, you must make sure your child of school age is enrolled and attends school all day, every school day unless they have an acceptable reason. Illness, doing work experience or competing in a school sporting event are acceptable reasons for being absent from school.

Principals decide if the reason given for your child's absence is acceptable.

Avoid keeping your child away from school for:

- birthdays, shopping, visiting family and friends, if they sleep in, looking after other children, minor check ups or care such as hair cuts.

Routine medical or other health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays.

### What should I do if our family is going on a holiday in school time?

You are encouraged not to schedule holidays during school time. If your family holiday is during school time, let the school know in advance and talk about what arrangements

can be made for your child. Depending on the circumstances the school may be able to provide tasks for your child to complete while they are absent or assist you to organise an exemption from schooling.

### Do I need to let the school know if my child has been away from school?

Yes, you must let the school know the reason why your child has been absent from school within two school days of their return. If possible, advise the school beforehand.

### Are you having problems getting your child to school for some of these reasons?

- won't get out of bed in the morning
- won't go to bed at night
- can't find their uniform, books, school bag ...
- slow to eat breakfast
- haven't done their homework
- watching TV
- have a test or presentation to do, have an assignment to hand in
- it's their birthday.

### If so, a set routine can help

- have a set time to go to bed
- have a set time to get out of bed
- have uniform and school bag ready the night before
- have a set time for starting and finishing breakfast
- set a time for daily homework activities
- speak about school positively
- be firm, send your child to school every school day including their birthday and the last day of term!

### What should I do if my child won't go to school?

You should contact the school as soon as possible for advice and support.

Humpybong State School

## Does your Child have a chance of being successful?

Being away from school for 1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem much BUT ...

If your child misses ...	That equals ...	Which is ...	And over 13 years of schooling that's ...	Which means the best your child may achieve is ...
1 day a fortnight	20 days a year	4 weeks a year	Nearly 1.5 years	Equal to finishing in Year 11
1 day a week	40 days a year	8 weeks a year	Over 2.5 years	Equal to finishing in Year 10
2 days a week	80 days a year	16 weeks a year	Over 5 years	Equal to finishing in Year 7
3 days a week	120 Days a year	24 weeks a year	Nearly 8 years	Equal to finishing in Year 4

At Humpybong State School, every day counts!

Ask us about ways to help get your child to school every day!

