

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

Miss School Miss Out



GWAUNFARREN PRIMARY SCHOOL

At Gwaunfarren Primary School we want all of our pupils to make the most of their time in school.

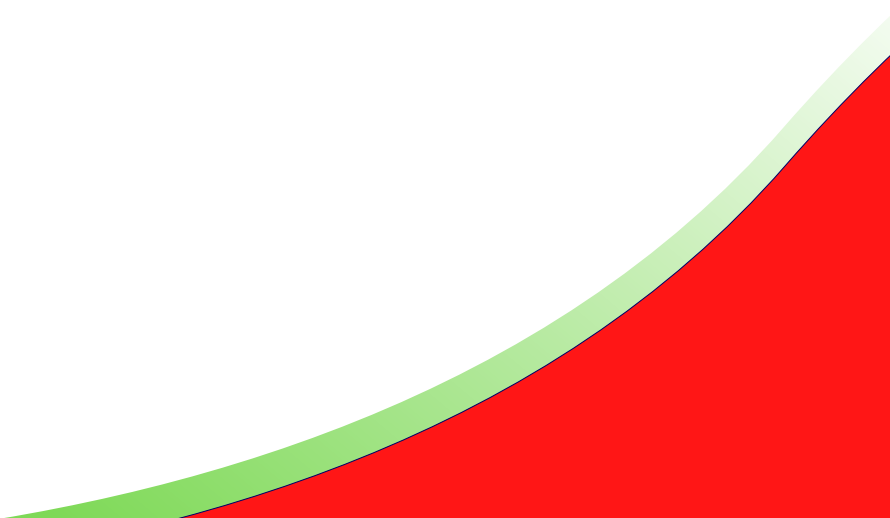
Making sure that your child is in school every day is important to your child's progress and has a big impact on how your child improves their learning.

What is 'attendance'?

'Attendance' is how often your child is at school. Each school day consists of 2 sessions (morning and afternoon) and your child's teacher will record your child's attendance on our digital registers. As a school, we want to encourage our pupils to be in school everyday! 95% is the minimum we would expect for pupils to make sure they are really engaging with their learning. Your child's attendance is monitored every day.

What does the school do about poor attendance?

Attendance at Gwaunfarren Primary School is monitored very closely to make sure that all of our pupils are being given the opportunity to access their education. We work closely with the Local Authority (Merthyr Tydfil CBC) to make sure that, where concerns arise, we tackle these quickly and help our pupils and their families to get back on track with regularly attending school.



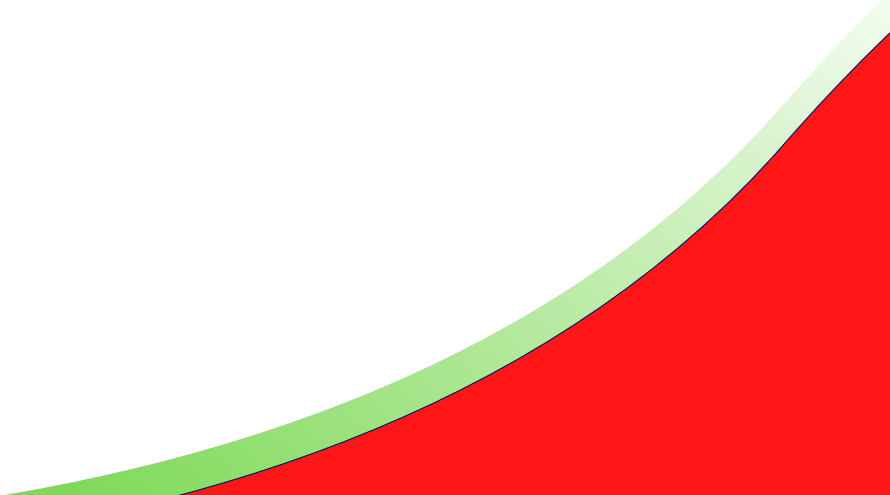
How does the school promote attendance?

Within their learning, children will take part in lots of exciting and enjoyable new learning activities. We want to make sure that children are able to take part in these by coming to school every day. As a school we promote good attendance through a range of strategies and rewards including; trips for excellent attendance, goodie packs for regular attendance and weekly class competitions.

Will medical appointments affect my child's attendance?

We understand that there will be times where your child will need to miss school to attend medical appointments. Hospital and specialist appointments are very often difficult to rearrange. Your child will receive a medical mark for missing school due to medical appointments – however, this does not include dental, doctor or optician appointments as these can be arranged outside of school hours.

We will ask you to bring a letter or appointment card as evidence of your child's appointment.



My child is ill and can't attend. What should I do?

If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, we would ask that you let us know as soon as you are able to by phoning the school and leaving a message on our system. You don't need to speak to our school clerk as we listen to all messages daily, and can update our system with the information you leave.

Can I be fined for my child not attending school?

As a parent/carer, you are legally required to ensure that your child is in school. Parents/ Carers who do not send pupils to school can face large fines; and result in court orders being issued. There are a number of processes we have in place to try and address poor attendance, and our EWO works closely with us and families to try and prevent such instances. If your child's attendance drops below 90% we will monitor closely and contact you to support you in improving your child's attendance.

