

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Learners need to be **present**, **participating** and **progressing** for their best possible future.

If your child cannot attend school, for whatever reason, it is very important to let the school know as soon as possible.

Phone: **0277160115**

Remember, by law children must be enrolled at and attend school from their sixth birthday until they turn 16.

Research indicates that each day of absence from school predicts a similar drop in attainment, however it also tells us that it is never too late to turn attendance around.

The Government has developed an Attendance and Engagement Strategy for tackling attendance and engagement in schools.

There can be many reasons why children do not attend school regularly and to overcome this there needs to be clear expectations for everyone involved.

We all have a role to play:

- **Parents, caregivers and whanau** are responsible for making sure their tamariki are enrolled in school and attend every day.

- **Schools** need to provide a welcoming environment, engaging learning and develop good relationships with whanau.
- **The Government** needs to prioritise attendance and engagement and bring social services and government agencies together to work with whanau and communities that need help with the wider problems that are barriers to attendance.

We each have a role to play
to make sure learners attend school very day!



We want learners who are equipped to thrive as citizens and are resilient, active members of communities.

The Attendance Co-ordinator will be working on behalf of your school looking at identified targets for regular attendance and chronic and moderate absence.

- **Regular attendance** is when your child is attending school at least 9 days every fortnight. WELL DONE!
- **Moderately absent** is when your child is missing 2 to 3 days a fortnight.

- **Chronically absent** is when your child is missing 3 or more days a fortnight.
- **Unjustified absence** is when your child is missing from school for 5 or more days in a term where the absence is unexplained.

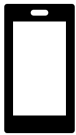
If absence persists the Attendance Co-ordinator will be asked to contact you, (the parent, caregiver or whanau) to try to understand what has happened and how we can help get your child back to school and learning every day.

If you are having problems getting your child to school every day, please don't leave it but contact us as soon as possible so we can help.

The Attendance Co-ordinator, Stephanie McKellar, is stationed at Opunake Primary School and you can reach her by:



Phone: (06) 761 8367



Mobile: 027 355 4866



Visit: Call in at your school and they will pass on a message.



Email: attendancecoordinator@opunakeprimary.school.nz

Remember:

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