

# INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

## WHEN IS IT OK TO MISS SCHOOL?

It is important for children to attend school all day, every day.

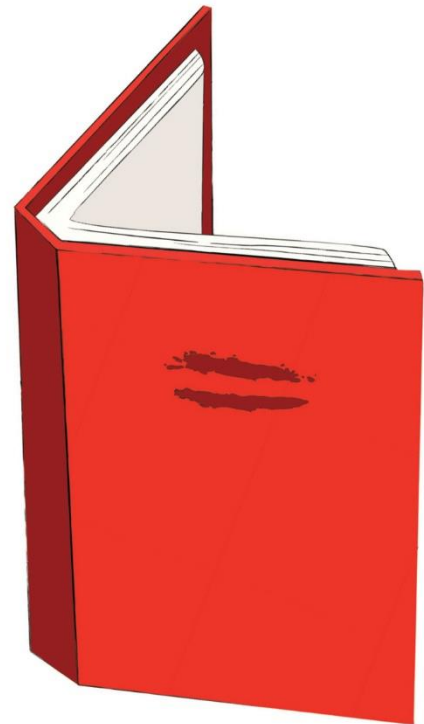
### When is it OK to not go to school?

An OK reason is one that *prevents* your child from getting to school. This could include:

- when your child is sick or unwell
- attending cultural or religious observances such as sorry time and funerals
- an unavoidable natural event such as flood waters or a cyclone
- an unavoidable medical appointment

The principal decides if the reason given for your child's absence is acceptable.

It is important to be aware that even explained and reasonable absences will still affect your student's attendance percentage, unless your student is in class it will still be an absence.



### It's NOT OK to miss school if your child:

- is celebrating a birthday
- is going on a family holiday
- is visiting family and friends
- has slept in or had a big weekend
- is looking after other children
- has sport or other recreational activities that have not been approved by the school
- has appointments such as haircuts and minor check ups

If possible, routine medical and other health appointments should be made either before or after school, or during the school holidays.

- **90% + Attendance = 1 day off a fortnight = Regular Attendance**
- **80% Attendance = 1 day off a week = At academic risk**

For more information please contact:

Student Services on 9583 2831 or email [CoastalLakes.Col.Absentees@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:CoastalLakes.Col.Absentees@education.wa.edu.au)



## Do you need to let the school know if your child will be away from school?

Yes, you need to let the Attendance Officer in Student Services know the reason why your child is going to be, or has been, absent from school as soon as possible. Where possible, please discuss any upcoming absences in advance so we can let you know of important learning or activities your child will miss out on.

This requires a responsible person, usually a parent, to provide a reason for the absence within three school days.

Having information about why your child is missing school helps us plan for their return to school and work out whether we can provide any further help to you.

You can advise Student Services via SMS, email, phone, connect absent message or note/letter.

P- 9583 2831 C-Submit on Compass  
E- [CoastalLakes.Col.Absentees@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:CoastalLakes.Col.Absentees@education.wa.edu.au)



# ABC



## Why is going to school so important?

- **At school, many concepts such as literacy and numeracy are taught in a sequence. Missing school means missing out on learning – which can often make it difficult to catch up later.** This is particularly important in the early years of high school when essential foundation skills are being taught.
- Going to school every day helps children learn the important life skill of 'showing up' at school, at work, to sport and other commitments. When your child attends everyday they are building habits that last a life time.
- Research from the Western Australian Telethon Kids Institute shows that every day at school counts towards a student's learning. Students who attend regularly, generally do better at school and in life.
- It effects the whole classroom when students arrive late, or when students are absent.
- **Your child will feel connected academically and socially.**

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