



School Success starts with Good Attendance

Attending school regularly is a habit that leads to school success. Set the expectation in kindergarten that your child will get to school on time every day. The habit will carry through elementary, middle, and high school years and into adult life.

What Parents Can Do

- Help your child set and maintain routines.
- Ensure that your child gets enough sleep.
- Send children to school unless they are sick.
- Schedule medical appointments outside of school hours.
- Avoid long trips when school is in session.

For elementary age children:

- Help your child set out clothes and backpacks the night before.
- Check homework each night.
- Develop a back-up plan for getting to school if your child misses the bus or you cannot provide transportation.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice.

For middle and high school students:

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.
- Encourage your teen to arrive at school on time. Being late can lead to poor performance.
- Check on your teen's attendance.
- Follow academic progress.
- Know your teen's friends. Peer pressure can lead to missing school. Students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage after-school activities that help students feel connected to school, including sports and clubs.
- Ask for help from the school, other parents, or community agencies if your teen is having trouble getting to school.

Reference: www.AttendanceWorks.org

FCPS Attendance Policy <https://www.fcps.edu/node/27633>

Teachers, administrators, and counselors can assist in helping students adjust to routines, learn expectations, and develop academic and social competence.

- Call your school's attendance line in the morning if your child will be absent.
- A student who has five unexcused absences during the school year may be referred to a school attendance officer for further action.
- A student who is absent from school for 15 consecutive days or more is withdrawn from school and must officially register again upon his or her return to school.

