



# Attendance Matters!

Spring 2 2026

Thank you all your support in prioritising attendance and punctuality. We know that regular attendance is key to your child's academic progress and social development.

Pupils who attend school consistently:

- Develop strong routines and a sense of responsibility
- Build confidence and positive relationships
- Achieve better academic results

## What the numbers say

Our average school attendance is **94.7%**. This has dropped slightly since Christmas but there has been a lot of illness.

**Let's aim for 95% by the end of March!**

The classes with the highest attendance are:

Lower School: Birch Class 96.5%

Upper School: Arnhem Class 96.6%



## 100% Attendance Awards

The next 100% attendance badges will be awarded before the Easter break.

Currently on track:

- to receive a bronze badge - 101 children
- to receive a silver badge - 80 children

It is wonderful to see the children proudly wear their badges on their uniform.

**How it works:**

- Children who achieve 100% attendance for:
  - **1 term** will receive a **bronze badge**
  - **2 terms** will receive a **silver badge**
  - **3 terms** will receive a **gold badge**

100%

100%

100%

## Punctuality Matters

We have noticed an increase in the number of children coming in late to school. The office is often busy with children signing in after the gates have closed at 8:45am.



**GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL REALLY DOES MATTER**

**DID YOU KNOW...?**

In a school year, if your child is late every day by...	Your child would have lost approximately...	or they would have missed approximately...
5 minutes	3 days from school	12 lessons
10 minutes	6 days from school	24 lessons
15 minutes	9 days from school	36 lessons
20 minutes	12 days from school	48 lessons
30 minutes	18 days from school	72 lessons

**PLEASE ENCOURAGE PUNCTUALITY TO MAINTAIN ATTENDANCE**

Arriving at school on time is important for your child's learning and wellbeing.

**5 minutes late each day adds up to over 3 days of lost learning time in a school year.**

### Why punctuality matters

Arriving on time for school helps your child:

- Start the day calmly – Morning routines in class help children settle and prepare for learning
- Avoid missing key learning – Important instructions and learning activities often happen first thing
- Build good habits – Punctuality is a life skill that will benefit them throughout their education and beyond
- Feel part of the class – Arriving late can make children feel anxious or embarrassed

### Practical tips to help your child arrive on time

The night before:

- Prepare school bags, PE kits, and packed lunches the evening before
- Lay out school uniform ready
- Check the weather forecast and prepare appropriate coats/shoes
- Agree a reasonable bedtime to ensure your child gets enough sleep ( 9-11 hours)

In the morning:

- Set your alarm 10 minutes earlier than you think you need – this gives you a buffer for unexpected delays
- Create a simple morning routine chart with your child (breakfast, teeth, dressed, shoes, bag)
- Allow plenty of time for breakfast – children learn better when they're not hungry
- Try to avoid screen time in the morning, which can cause delays
- Leave the house 5 minutes earlier than you think necessary

### If you are struggling:

- Talk to us – we are here to help. There is support available to discuss routines
- Consider whether your child could walk or cycle with friends or neighbours
- Think about whether after-school commitments are affecting bedtime routines

### What time should you arrive?

- **School gates open:** 8:30am
- **Registration:** 8:35am to 8:45am
- **Gates close:** 8:45am

Children who arrive after 8:45am will be marked as late. If your child arrives after registration closes at 9:15am, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence unless there is a valid reason.



See the [guidance for parents on school attendance](#) and the [blog for improving school attendance](#) from the Department for Education.



### Should I send my child to school?

It can be a challenge deciding whether to keep your child off school when they are unwell. This [NHS guidance](#) can help you decide.



Please report any absences to the school office by 9am

01252 314884     [info@cambridgeschool.hants.sch.uk](mailto:info@cambridgeschool.hants.sch.uk)

If you are struggling to get your child to school, please contact our Family Support Advisor: Mrs Vaiva

[fsa@cambridgeschool.hants.sch.uk](mailto:fsa@cambridgeschool.hants.sch.uk)



See the useful [attendance guidance for parents/carers](#) from Hampshire County Council.