



Go-Learn-Grow

Improving the School Attendance of New Jersey's Youngest Learners



Preschool and Kindergarten Attendance Can Spell Success!

Why does regular attendance matter?

Being at school every day helps your child build a foundation for learning. Missing two or more days each month can make it harder to succeed in school in the future. Every day your preschooler or kindergartner stays home, your child misses out on key building blocks for learning such as:



Speaking clearly to express feelings

Learning to manage emotions, be attentive in class, solve problems, and care for others



Learning to share and to take responsibility for their actions



Naming letters and matching them to their sounds

Counting objects and recognizing numbers and shapes



Understanding cause and effect

Missing school in the early grades can lead to future struggles with meeting important reading milestones, challenges with social skills, and repeating grades.

Want to make sure your child succeeds?

Supporting children's learning is a team effort. We are here to help!



Not sure how many days your child has missed? Refer to your school's online portal or parent webpage to track attendance or ask your child's teacher for updates. Look at the school calendar ahead of time and try to schedule family activities and vacations on non-school days.



Busy schedule? Get in the habit of going to school every day by setting a regular bedtime and morning routine and laying out your child's backpack and clothes the night before. Talk to a neighbor or other parent to create a backup plan for transportation if a last-minute need arises.



Not sure when to keep your child home from school? Check with your school nurse or doctor to help know which symptoms mean your child is too sick for school. If your child has a chronic illness, such as asthma, work with your child's teacher to come up with a plan that helps your child attend school regularly.

Let's work together to make sure children attend school every day!

Questions? Contact your child's teacher, school, or parent organization.

New Jersey Department of Education. (2014). [Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards](#). Trenton, NJ: State of New Jersey Department of Education. New Jersey Department of Education. (2023). [Kindergarten Student Learning Standards](#). Trenton, NJ: State of New Jersey Department of Education.

Connolly, F., & Olson, L. (2012). [Early elementary performance and attendance in Baltimore City Schools' pre-kindergarten and kindergarten](#). Baltimore, MD: Baltimore Education Research Consortium.

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