

Every Student Counts

Make the Attendance Connection

Partners in Attendance

Parents play an important role in the education of their children. Their involvement and encouragement can help a child excel.

Other family members and friends also play a key role in making sure students understand why they need to attend school to succeed.

A success in school starts with regular attendance from the early years right through high school completion. Did you know that even as early as Kindergarten, chronic absenteeism makes it more difficult to learn?

Parents and schools can work together to find solutions that support children's success in learning.

Alberta Education provides resources to support parent involvement. For more information visit:

<http://education.alberta.ca/parents/role.aspx>.

Can't, won't or don't attend?

Cannot

Sometimes students cannot attend school because of illness, injury, family problems, housing instability or involvement with the justice system.

Will not

Sometimes students will not attend school to avoid bullying, unsafe conditions, harassment, embarrassment related to learning difficulties, physical challenges, new environment or even sanctions for being late.

Do not

Sometimes students do not attend school because they may not be aware of the importance of going to school.

What can you do?

- Make attendance a priority
- Be sure your child gets enough sleep
- Have a regular homework schedule
- Communicate with your child's teachers
- Encourage your child to participate in school clubs and after school activities

Make the attendance connection

How can you work with the school when your child:

Can't attend?

- Modified timetables
- Specialized learning supports
- Individual program plan
- Community programming
- Online classes
- Home schooling

Won't attend?

- Peer mentoring
- Supplemental learning supports
- Transition plans
- Parent volunteers
- Transit passes/shared rides
- Modified schedules

Doesn't attend?

- Community mentoring
- Off campus programming
- Counselling
- Learning Coaches
- Flexible scheduling
- Buddy programs

Did you know?

Did you know...for students to experience success, positive connections must be created and maintained between the school staff, the student and their family?

If your child can't, won't or doesn't attend, please make the **attendance connection** with your child's school.