



# School Success starts with Good Attendance

Attending school regularly is a habit that leads to school success.

<https://www.fcps.edu/attendance>

## 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](http://www.AttendanceWorks.org)

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## Fairfax County Public Schools Attendance Policy

<https://www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/policies-regulations-and-notices/attendance-policies>

- Call your school's attendance line in the morning before attendance is taken, if your child will be late or absent.
- Virginia requires that all children between the ages of 5 and 18 be enrolled in school and attend on a daily basis.
- **A student who is absent from school for 15 consecutive days or more is withdrawn from school and must officially register again upon his or her return to school.**

