

School attendance



Good school attendance

- supports a positive self-image at school
- can be one of the fundamental aspects of well-being at school
- can support success in future studies

A continuous and stable presence in a social environment can help the child form relationships with others and experience safety in the school environment.

Every school day is important for the child and its academic status. Missing school, being late repeatedly, or showing up irregularly can fuel your child's insecurities and create a vicious cycle that is hard to break.

When a child is absent, they can fall behind in their studies and it can be difficult to catch up. The child also misses out on opportunities to create memories with schoolmates and experience themselves as part of a whole.

Teachers have a duty to monitor their students' school attendance and inform parents regularly. Cooperation between the home and school plays an important role. It is important that parents contact the school immediately if their child shows signs of not wanting to attend school instead of reporting the child sick.

Act on Primary Schools

Articles 3 and 19 of the Act on Primary Schools state that in Iceland school is compulsory at the primary school level, and parents are responsible for their child attending school and monitoring their educational progress.



Reaction due to insufficient school attendance

01

A conversation between the supervising teacher and the student about the possible causes of insufficient school attendance and look for ways for improvement. Parents are informed about the situation.

02

A meeting with the student, parents, supervising teacher and administrator, where ways are sought to improve matters and an agreement is made that everyone signs.

03

Meeting with the student, parents, supervising teacher and administrator. The involvement of school services recommended and integrated services at level 1 offered.

04

Meeting with the student, parents, supervising teacher and administrator. Level 2 integration is presented and further action taken, as appropriate.

05

If previous actions have not been successful, the school principal will refer the case to child protection services after a discussion in the Student Protection Council.

Helpful advice

If a child is anxious about going to school, it is important to cooperate with teachers and get help to make it easier to get to school.

Go over the schedule for the next day or the coming week with the child, for example if there is a change at school.

Have clothes and school supplies ready for the child the night before.

Sleep is one of the basic needs and it is important that a child gets enough sleep and has a regular bedtime.

It is good to have a rule regarding screen use and limit it, especially before bedtime.

