

What Resources are there for Parents?

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's attendance at school, there are resources and supports available for you to access. Remember, good attendance is everyone's concern, so seek help if you need it!

You can speak to:

- your child's teacher
- The school principal
- The school guidance counselor
- The resource teacher
- School division support services staff
- Manitoba Association of Parent Councils (MAPC)
- Manitoba Education
- Healthy Child Manitoba
- www.manitobaparentzone.ca

Daily attendance is important for all students. Students who attend school regularly are more engaged in learning, have a greater sense of belonging in their communities, and are more likely to graduate.



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Supporting Regular Daily Attendance

**What Parents Can Do To
Support Learning in
Manitoba Schools**



Since 2009, Manitoba Education has undertaken a number of initiatives to support improved attendance in schools.

In 2012, Manitoba Association of Parent Councils (MAPC) entered into a partnership with Manitoba Education to promote awareness to parents about the importance of regular daily attendance for Manitoba students.

**Everybody
in School
Every Day**



Did you know...

- ▶ Attendance in school is mandatory in Manitoba—not optional
- ▶ If your child is 10 minutes late every day, they will have lost six days of instruction by the end of the school year
- ▶ If your child misses only two days per month of school, they will have missed one month worth of instruction by the end of the school year
- ▶ If your child misses 15 days of school every year, they will have lost one year of instruction by the end of grade 12
- ▶ Students who attend school regularly are more engaged in learning, have a greater sense of belonging in their community, and are more likely to graduate
- ▶ Individuals without a high school diploma are twice as likely to experience unemployment and earn a lower income than high school graduates

Learning to Age 18 Regulation

*In September 2012, Manitoba Education introduced the **Preparing Students for Success Act**, which raised the compulsory school age for attendance from 16 years to 18 years. The goal of this regulation is to ensure that Manitoba enjoys higher graduation rates and learners are offered more opportunities to be successful in life.*

What can Families Do to Support Good Attendance?

- ▶ Participate in school events and activities to demonstrate your support for school and education
- ▶ Talk to your kids about the importance of attendance, starting at an early age
- ▶ Communicate regularly with the school if there is a problem or a concern and find ways to work together to solve it
- ▶ Help your child with preparing and planning for the upcoming school day to lessen anxiety
- ▶ Plan with other families in your neighbourhood to have children walk to school together
- ▶ Plan appointments around the school day whenever possible
- ▶ Plan vacations and outings around the school year whenever possible
- ▶ Talk to your school about starting a Walking School Bus

**Your actions speak louder than words!
Be on time and show that you value regular attendance and education!**

What can Schools do to provide support for good attendance?

- ▶ Work to ensure that each child has a trusted adult in the school to whom they can speak when a problem occurs
- ▶ Communicate regularly with families about special events and promoting family involvement at the school
- ▶ Create a welcoming environment so both students and families feel valued in their school community