

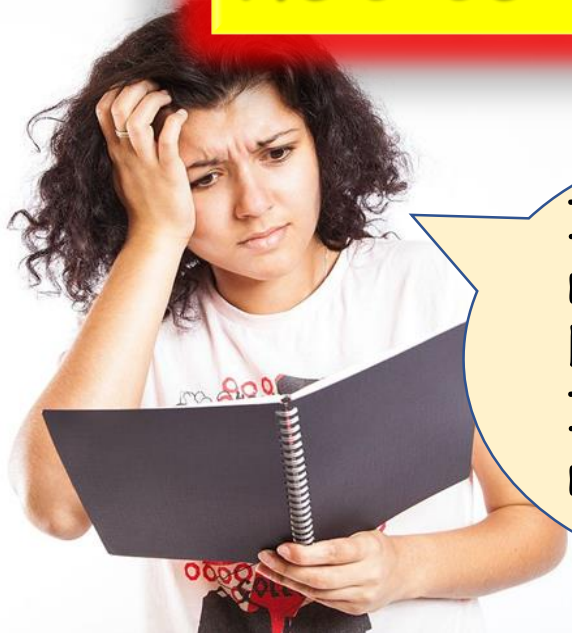


I have to go shopping for school shoes.



I know it's not a snow day, but the weather's still bad and I have a cold.

Who has a **GOOD REASON** not to be in school today?



I haven't done my maths homework and I've just missed my bus!



I'm in hospital.

*If you are in hospital you are very ill.
Of course you wouldn't be coming to school.*

However - everyone gets colds. What you need to consider is, could I just make sure I wrap up warm, have a paracetamol and still come in?



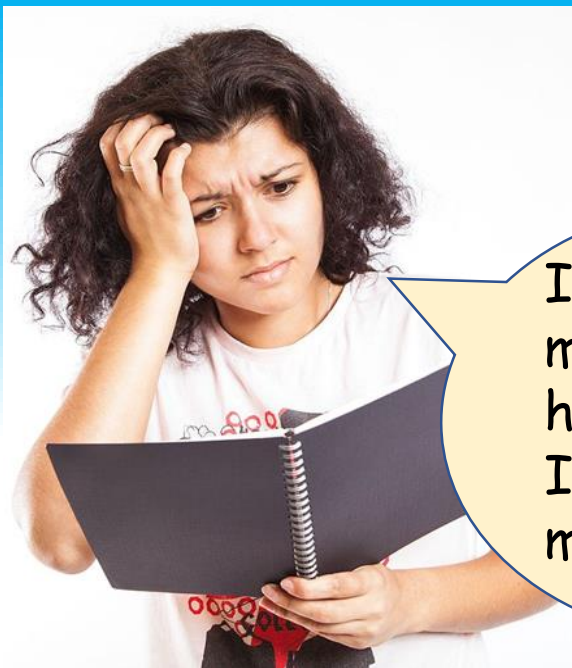
Or, is my cold so bad that I need to stay home in bed all day? If your cold is that bad, that sounds more like the symptoms of flu, so perhaps you should see a doctor.

But won't I spread my germs if I come to school?

Well maybe, but everyone gets colds anyway. Just make sure you keep your hands clean and cover your mouth to sneeze.



If you are caught wearing inappropriate shoes the school will give you a period of time to get this sorted. **Having incorrect shoes is no excuse for a day off.**



I haven't done my maths homework and I've just missed my bus!



There are no good excuses like this. Staying at home to catch up on school work is really silly.

Why? Because whilst you are off, you miss ANOTHER full day of school work. This will all have to be caught up on otherwise you will fall behind and struggle much more in the long run.

Don't create extra work for yourself.

What is good attendance?

So why does attendance matter?

'Pupils with no absence are over twice as likely to achieve 5 A*-Cs in their GCSEs' (that's 5 Grade 9-5 now)



'There is a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower academic achievement.'

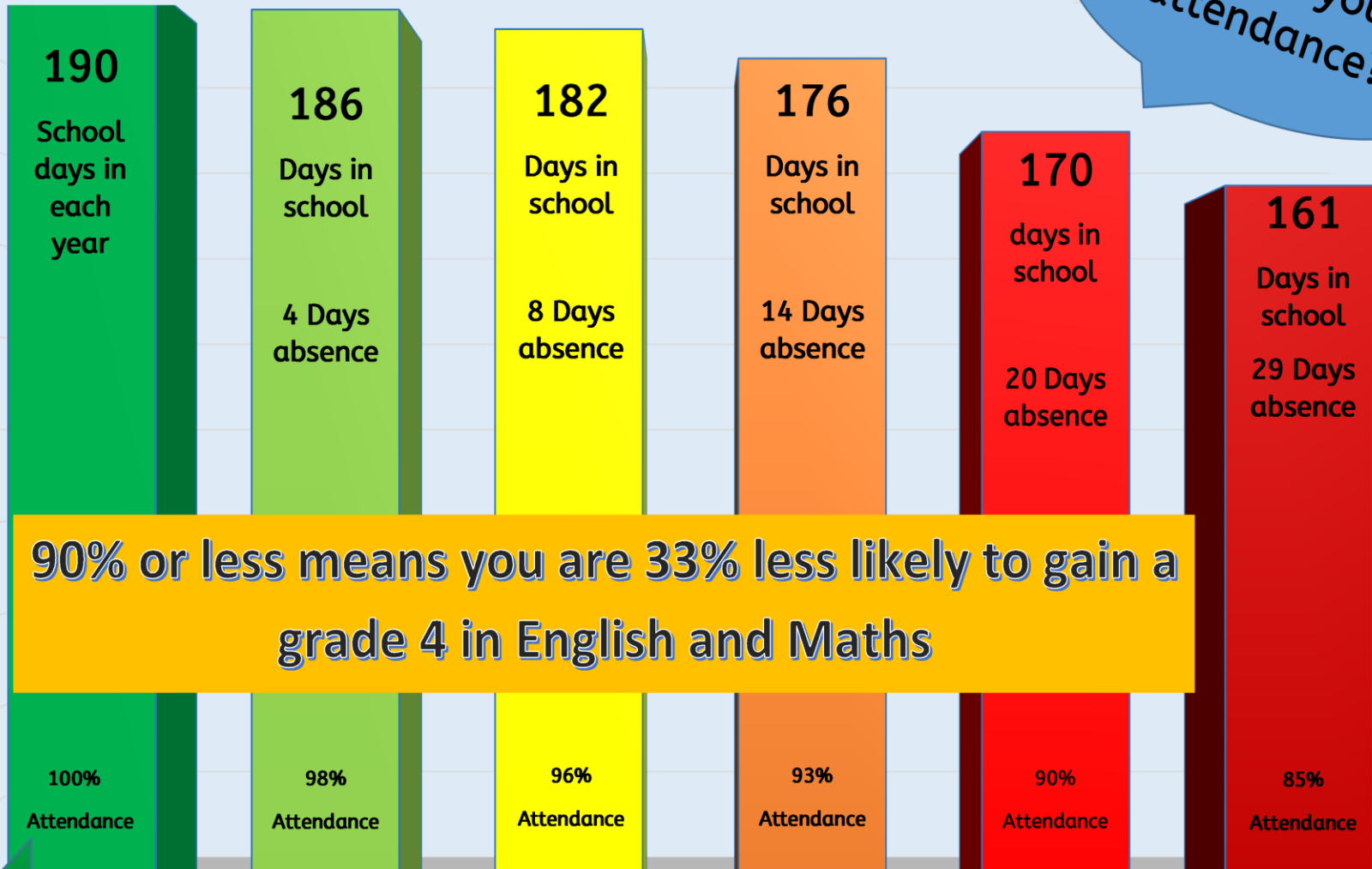
90% of young people with absence rates below 85% fail to achieve five or more good grades of GCSE and around one third achieve no GCSEs



Good Attendance Matters

Being in school at least **98%** of the time or 186 to 190 days

What is your attendance?



90% or less means you are 33% less likely to gain a grade 4 in English and Maths

100%
Attendance

98%
Attendance

96%
Attendance

93%
Attendance

90%
Attendance

85%
Attendance

Expected

Risk of underachievement

Severe risk

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

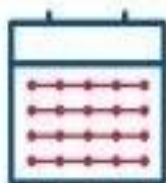
and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight



=

4 weeks



=

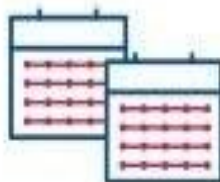
Over **1** year missed

1 day per week



=

8 weeks



=

Over **2.5** years missed

So why does punctuality matter?

Being late 15 minutes every day is the same as missing 2 whole weeks of school over a full academic year.



Being late disrupts other people in your lesson too - that's not fair.



However - if you are running late, DO still come in. There will be less catching up to do then.

Your teachers are aware that's sometimes its hard for some of you to get to school.



However, to improve your life chances, it is essential you attend as close to 100% as possible - and always be on time.

If there is a reason why getting to school is becoming a problem, talk to a teacher.

Think carefully - what do you want to get out your time in education? Good qualifications and the route to a well paid job? Or poor qualifications, and the route to a life which could be very hard. **You create your future today.**

