Compulsory School Attendance

Under the Education Act of South Australia 1972, parents and guardians are responsible for the regular attendance of all children in their care.

All young people are required by the Education Age Legislation to participate in a full-time approved learning program. This includes:

- SACE (South Australian Certificate of Education)
- Steiner Education Secondary Certificate
- TAFE courses or accredited courses offered by registered training organisations
- Apprenticeships or Traineeship
- University degrees, diplomas or other award courses
- Other programs authorised by the Minister of Education.

Student Attendance Counsellors support schools in monitoring and improving school attendance.

www.education.sa.gov.au

We work with parents to provide a caring and engaging learning environment. To reach their potential students need to attend regularly.

Attendance is a major factor contributing to student well being and academic achievement.
Why is attending school regularly important?

Success in learning is strongly linked to regular school attendance and participation. Children should attend school every day, except in cases of illness or emergency. Regular attendance and punctuality are habits that are expected and appreciated at all levels of schooling and in the workplace.

It is impossible to replace the learning that occurs on any school day with catch up work. Help your child to achieve excellence through attendance. By encouraging their regular attendance and participation you will positively influence your child’s learning and opportunities in life.

What can parents do to help?

- Encourage your child to attend by taking a positive approach to school and school activities
- Send a written note to school on the same day your child returns after being absent or phone the school on the day they are absent
- Respond to text messages sent from school regarding school absences
- Read the Salisbury High School Student Diary regarding information about daily school attendance
- Attend meetings and Student Led Conference nights to support your child’s learning

Expectations of Students:

- Attend school and all classes on time each day
- Participate in school work, prepare for all classes, complete all assignments, participate in class discussions, and follow directions given by your teachers
- Take responsibility for your actions and behaviour.

School Responsibilities:

- Daily Attendance recorded in care and all lessons
- Text message sent at 9:30am to caregivers for students who have not attended / or signed in for AM Care
- Students absence codes recorded
- Home contact to advise caregivers of attendance concerns
- Home contact by Care Teacher to arrange Student Led Conference
- Chronic absence cases referred to appropriate Senior Leader for Middle or Senior school
- Referral to the DECD Attendance Officer where appropriate.

Assistance Available

Individual student attendance map shared with parents at the Student Led Conference, last Wednesday of each term.

If you have any concerns please contact your child’s Care Teacher.

If attendance concerns persist you can ask the school to seek assistance from the Student Attendance Counsellor who is located at the District Office.

Interesting Data

1 day a week absent amounts to an entire year of learning lost over 5 years secondary school