

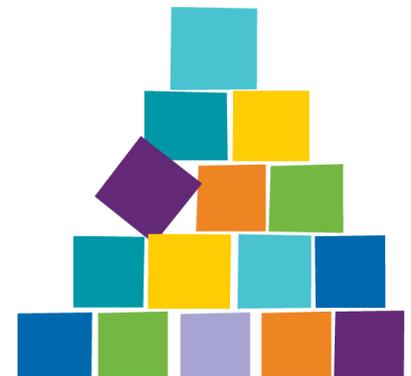


Go-Learn-Grow

Improving the school attendance of New Jersey's youngest learners



Attending School Every Day: Preschool and Kindergarten Attendance Can Spell Success!



How much is too much school to miss?

- When children miss **10%** or more of the school year, research suggests it is harder for them to develop a strong base for learning.
- Being absent **2 or more days a month** can add up to missing 10 percent of the school year.

Important learning happens in the early years

- Learning experiences in preschool and kindergarten can help your child **explore, examine, and learn about the world around them.**
 - When your child misses school they could be missing out on:
 - Naming letters and matching them to their sounds
 - Early reading and writing skills
 - Counting objects and recognizing shapes
 - Critical thinking skills, such as planning and carrying out experiments and learning cause and effect
 - Learning to manage their emotions, be attentive in class, solve problems, and care for others
 - Speaking clearly to express their feelings and ideas
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Missing school puts children at risk of falling behind

- Missing school in the early years can lead to **future struggles with school readiness, school suspensions, and being held back** in later grades.
 - Students who are chronically absent early on are more likely to experience the following in later grades:
 - Lower school readiness scores in math, letter recognition, and social emotional skills
 - Challenges meeting reaching key reading milestones
 - Continued attendance issues
 - Poor social-emotional development and behavior problems
 - Suspensions and being held back in later grades
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We want to help you get your child to school

Many challenges may make it difficult for your child to attend school every day, such as:

- Health conditions
- Other family obligations or schedules to work around
- Transportation challenges
- Unstable housing
- Stressful life events

Let's work together to support our children's learning!

When is a child too sick to come to school?

- **Having a sore throat, cough, or mild congestion doesn't always mean a child can't handle going to school**
 - Check with the school nurse (XXX-XXX-XXXX) or your doctor to help know when your child has symptoms that mean they are too sick for school.
- **We can help you navigate your child's chronic illness**
 - If your child has a chronic illness, such as asthma, let's work together on a plan that helps your child attend school regularly.



Do other obligations make it hard to prepare for school every day?

Habits start early!

Help your child get into the habit of getting to school every day, on time by:

- Setting a regular bed time and morning routine
- Laying out clothes and backpack the night before



Need help with transportation to school?

Have a back-up plan!

- Check with us if you need help finding transportation.
- Talk to a friend, neighbor, or parent from your child's class that you trust to provide support.
- Consider talking with a fellow parent here before you leave!



Experiencing unstable housing or other challenges?

There are resources in our state that can help!

Dial 2-1-1 or go to [NJ211.org](https://www.nj211.org) for assistance, or contact a [local homeless prevention hotline](#).



Having a hard time keeping track of missed school days for your young child?

Knowledge is power!

Let's work together to track our children's attendance to avoid missing too much school:

- Ask your child's teacher for regular updates.
- Refer to your school's online portal or parent webpage to help track attendance.
- Look at the school calendar ahead of time and try to schedule family activities and vacations on non-school days.



Getting our children to school, every day!

We've talked about the importance of school for your young learners and ways we can reduce the challenges to attending school every day.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us about ways we can support you to ensure your child gets to school every day!



Questions and Answers



Disclaimer

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