

LONGFIELD SCHOOL

What has your child learnt today ?

Every Day at School Counts !

Every year there are 190 school days

100% attendance = 190 days of education

95% attendance = 180 days in school, 10 missed days = two school weeks lost.

90% attendance = 171 days in school, 19 missed days = nearly 4 weeks missed.

80% attendance = 152 days in school, 38 missed days = more than half a term's absence.

Being Late

What it means in lost opportunities

Over a school year

5 minutes late everyday = 3 days of education lost!

10 minutes late everyday = 6 days of education lost!

15 minutes late everyday = 10 days of education lost!

30 minutes late everyday = 19 days lost

CASE STUDY - Bart is in Year 11, he works very hard at school. He and his family hope he will achieve good grades in his examinations this summer. Bart thinks he has had very little time off this year. He went on holiday with his family in October for two weeks, and throughout the rest of the year he was only ill for seven days. He went to the dentist twice and once to the doctors.

This makes a total of 19 days.

This is the equivalent to half a day every week of the school year.

Over five years this is the equivalent of half a school year.

Statistics show that this would lower his GCSE examination results by one full grade.



Holidays

As a school we fully understand that holiday prices are considerably reduced at certain times of the year. Also some people are restricted as to when they can take annual leave from their jobs. However, as we have tried to explain if your child is not in school, we cannot teach them and they cannot learn. It is for this reason that Darlington as an Education Authority and we at Longfield School have taken the decision that the Headteacher will not authorise holidays taken in term time. This means pupils who do not attend school due to holidays are at risk of prosecution.

Life is a competition; every child needs to be able to do their best. In order to compete, they need basic equipment - pens, pencils, ruler, eraser, crayons, Homework Diary and a School Bag. A growing number of students are attending school unequipped; please ensure your child brings basic equipment every day

May I also remind you that school will finish for the Christmas break after a short Assembly at approximately 2.15 pm on Friday 17th December. Students are due to return to school on Thursday 6th January 2005.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Mr K.B. Cotgrave M.Sc Headteacher