



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath



Attendance Matters

Building your tomorrow, today!



*No poverty of expectation,
opportunity and aspiration for our
young people and families.*

The Challenge



School attendance across Scotland is falling. Our data tells us this is negatively impacting the academic performance and wellbeing of our learners.

🗣️ Regular attendance supports mental health and belonging

🎓 **Pupils with attendance below 90% are less likely to achieve learning outcomes and qualifications.**

👛 Poor attendance linked to lower earnings and more unemployment by age 23

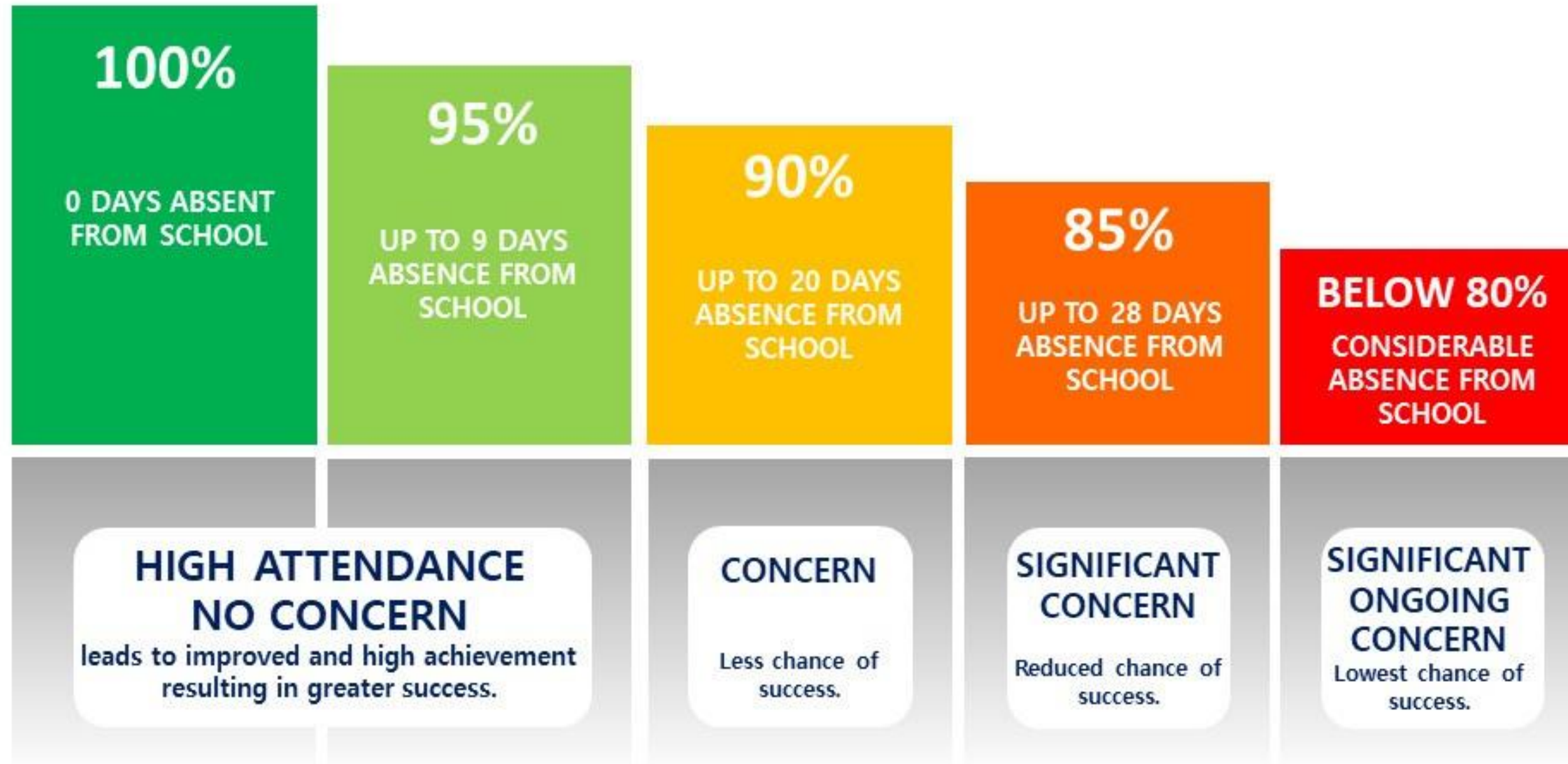
⚠️ <90% = Persistent Absence | <80% = Serious Concern

📄 **Even** 95% = 10 full school days missed per year

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WHAT IS YOUR ATTENDANCE?



Education Scotland research shows missing 19 days, or almost 4 weeks of school, means you are more likely to drop a full grade in a subject.



*Coming to
school every
day builds
important
habits for life.*

(And we are here to help you every
step of the way)



Academic Performance

Boosts attainment and learning outcomes



Increased Engagement

Enhances participation in classroom activities



Social Skills

Fosters relationships with peers and teachers



Prepare for Further Education or Work

Prepares learners for career opportunities



What happens when children miss school?



📄 Learning gaps grow quickly

😞 Friendships and routines are disrupted

📁 Poorer learning, job and life outcomes





Spot the early warning signs



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- 🙄 Frequent vague illnesses such as headaches or stomach aches)
- 🕒 Struggles to get out of bed or constant lateness
- 📅 Anxiety on Sunday nights or before school days
- 🙄 Loss of interest in activities they once enjoyed
- 🙄 Withdrawal from friends or family conversations
- 🗑 Regularly forgetting things or appearing unprepared
- 📅 Drop in engagement, energy, or school performance
- 🛑 Expressing statements like 'No one will notice if I'm not there'



How can we support you and your child?



We know that when children feel included and involved, they are more likely to want to come to school.

When learners know and enjoy what they're learning, they are more likely to come to school.

There's a place for everyone—and we help children find it.

If your child is struggling to come to school, please talk to us—we're here to help.

"You're not alone. Support goes beyond the school gate."

Inclusive School Culture

Our schools are nurturing places where every child is known, valued and celebrated.

We aim to:

- Build strong relationships between staff and learners;
- Celebrate progress and achievement;
- Promote mental wellbeing;
- Create calm, structured environments where children feel safe

Flexible & Engaging Curriculum

Learner needs are met through:
engaging experiential learning opportunities, encompassing all areas of the curriculum.

Personalised support is tailored to help children to succeed.

Extracurricular Opportunities

Our schools offer clubs, sports, arts, after school and lunchtime activities.

These help learners to:

- Build friendships;
- Develop confidence and life skills;
- Feel connected and motivated.

Targeted Support

We recognise that some children need specific support to come to school.

Our schools offer:

- Alternative pathways;
- Key adult check-ins;
- Soft starts/phased returns;
- Tailored wellbeing support.

Partnership Working

We work with a wide network of professionals to support families. This includes:

- Area Inclusion Workers;
- Educational Psychologist;
- School Nursing Service;
- Youth Workers and Third-Sector partners;
- Family-centred Wellbeing Support Service.

We understand every family is different—and we'll work with you!



What can you do at home?

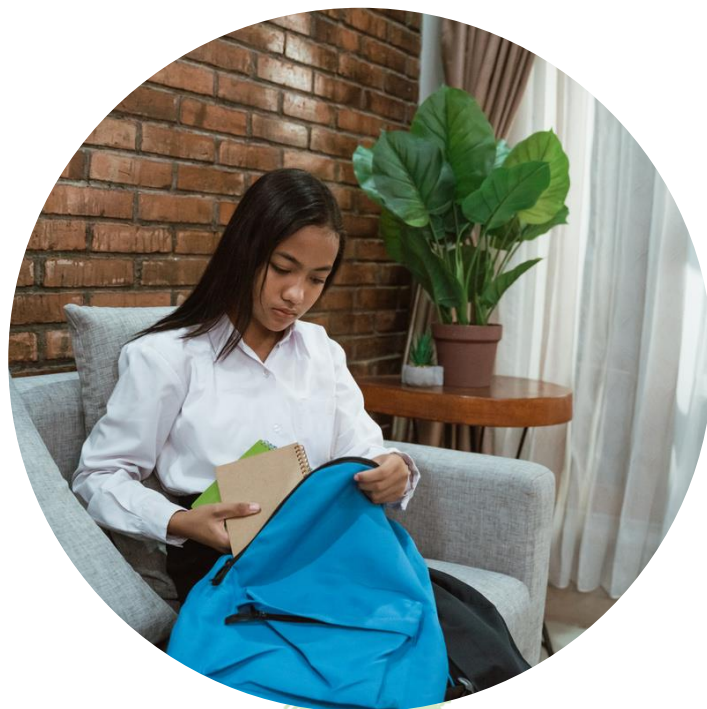


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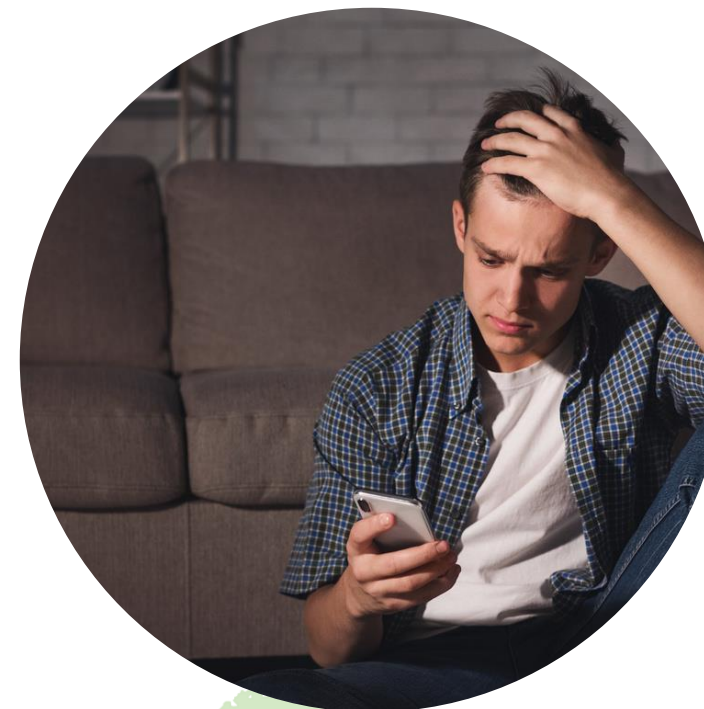
Bedtime and morning routines.

Predictable routines get the best for every one.



Prepare for school the night before

Small routines make a big difference.



Limit Screen Time

Excessive use of phones and screens can interrupt sleep patterns and impact negatively on mental health and wellbeing.



Talk positively about school

Ask questions such as, "What were you learning today?", "What was your favourite part of the day?" to keep conversations positive.

You know your child best and we are a team. So, let us know early if there is a concern.



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Attendance Matters Your Child Matters Our Partnership Matters

**TOGETHER, LET'S GIVE OUR YOUNG
PEOPLE THE BEST START IN LIFE!**



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