



Help your Child Succeed in School:

Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

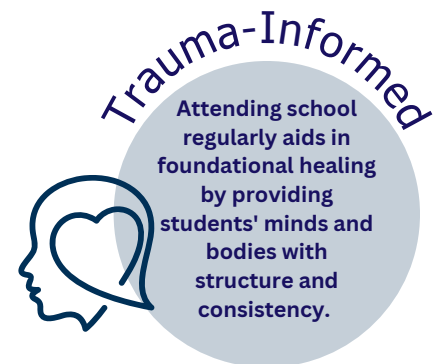
DID YOU KNOW?

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school and themselves. Start building this habit in early grades, so students learn that it is important to be at school on time, every day. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will prepare them to succeed.

- Chronic absenteeism in early grades can predict lower test scores, poor attendance, and retention in later grades.
- Missing 10%, or about two days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just one or two days every few weeks.
- Being in school helps students learn to develop healthy identities, manage emotions, achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Know the school's attendance policy and when school starts.
- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and backpacks the night before.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Try to schedule medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, reach out to teachers or support staff to discuss your student's challenges, identify what can help your child, and develop a return-to-school plan.
- Contact the Family School Liaison at your child's school if you have other barriers that make attending school difficult. They are there to help connect you with resources.



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