



# Elementary to Middle School: How Families Can Support Attendance at Every Stage

Regular school attendance is key to academic success and personal growth. Whether your child is in elementary or middle school, your support makes a big difference. Here are age-appropriate tips to help your student stay committed to showing up every day.

## For Elementary School Students

**Create a Fun Morning Routine:** Make mornings predictable and positive. Use visual schedules, upbeat music, and gentle reminders to keep things moving.

**Talk About Why School Matters:** Use simple language to explain that school helps them learn new things, make friends, and grow. Celebrate wins like learning a new word or finishing a project.

**Use Visual Rewards:** Sticker charts or small prizes for good attendance can be motivating. Celebrate milestones like a full week of being on time.

**Keep Communication Open:** Ask about their day and listen to any worries. If they're nervous or upset, reassure them and talk to their teacher if needed.

**Make School a Safe Place:** If your child feels anxious or has trouble with peers, work with the school to address concerns early.



## For Middle School Students

**Help Them Take Ownership:** Encourage your child to set attendance goals and talk about how it connects to their future.

**Use Technology Wisely:** Set alarms and reminders for wake-up times. Use school apps or calendars to track assignments and attendance.

**Talk About Consequences:** Explain how missing school can affect grades, friendships, and opportunities.

**Stay Involved:** Check in with teachers and monitor attendance through school portals. Your involvement shows that school is a priority.

**Address Challenges Together:** If your child is dealing with stress, bullying, or health issues, work with counselors or staff to find solutions.