



Attendance Policy

All schools in Queensland are committed to providing safe and supportive learning environments for all students which address their educational needs. Mabel Park State High School expects students to attend school every day of the school year. If students are unable to attend school it is for reasons of sickness, bereavement or events of cultural significance only.

Mabel Park State High School attendance policy aims to:

- Raise the understanding of the importance of attending school every day.
- Reduce the number of full and part day absences due to late arrivals and early departures.
- Highlight the role of the community, parent, students and school staff in ensuring that each student attends school all day, every day.

School community beliefs about the important of attending school

It is important that students, staff and parents/carers have a shared understanding of the importance of attending school. Mabel Park State High School:

- Is committed to promoting the key messages of Every Day Counts.
- Believes all children should be enrolled at school and attend school all day, every school day.
- Monitors, communicates and implements strategies to improve regular school attendance.
- Believes truanting can place a student in unsafe situations and impact on their future employability and life choices.
- Believes attendance at school is the responsibility of everyone in the community.

Impact of non-attendance

- Reduced levels of attainment in class.
- Essential lessons (knowledge and skills) being missed.
- Assessment items incomplete or not submitted.
- Semesters of credit not awarded as a result of not being present at school enough to complete mandatory content elements of courses being studied.

Student responsibilities

- Attend school every day, all day. Be on time and prepared to learn.
- Provide reasons for absences on their first day of return to school to their Teacher if they are absent.
- Catch up on work missed whilst absent and present a medical certificate when handing in assessment items if the due date has lapsed.

Parent responsibilities

- Ring Student Absence line on **3489 2360**
- Reply text to the automated text message, managed by administration staff.
- Send a signed note with the student to be handed to their Teacher.
- Promote attendance at school with students by only allowing absences to occur for sickness, bereavement, or events of cultural significance.
- Support the implementation of tailored intervention strategies when required to address persistent absence.
- Communicate reasons for absences to the school in a timely manner.