

Why attendance matters



When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Build friendships



Develop life skills

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life



School Bytes Messaging App

At Sarah Redfern Public, student attendance and safety is a high priority. Sarah Redfern Public School will notify Parents/Carers by a notification alert on the School Bytes App when a student is absent or arrives late to school without a reason.

On receiving a message parents/caregivers can reply by filling out the required fields on the notification alert.

Parents and caregivers may ring the school on **98201499** within the hours of **8.30am – 3pm**, send a message on Seesaw to advise of student absence or provide a note. However, **reply via School Bytes app** is the school's preferred option. (Please contact the school if you do not have the link for the app).

Parents and carers of students involved in approved school activities, including sport, will not receive an alert notification.

Parents and caregivers are asked to ensure that current mobile numbers and email addresses are provided to the school.

Absences

Students need to attend school regularly to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. Missing school means your child misses out on vital information and maintaining learning routines. This can result in a loss of confidence and missing out on forming vital friendships.

Attendance is recorded each day. As a parent or carer, you are responsible for ensuring your child attends school every day, including sports days, unless your child:

- has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably these should be made after school or during holidays),
- is required to attend a recognised religious holiday,
- is required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral),
- is sick or has an infectious illness.

If you are having difficulty getting your child to attend school regularly, you can make an appointment through the front office to talk to a school executive leader or the school psychologist.

If your child has to be absent from school for any reason, including arriving late or leaving early, please either tell your child's teacher or the administrative assistant at our school, or explain the reason by phone, email, or write a note as soon as possible and within seven days.

Absentee Note

In the case of non-English speakers, languages other than English may be used. Notes must be written and signed by parents/carers.






Sickness in excess of 2 school days requires a doctor's certificate detailing the nature of sickness and duration of sickness.

Parents/carers may contact the school in advance if they know their child is going to be absent.

Appointments with doctors, dentists etc., should be made, where possible, outside of school time.

Five Ways To Notify School Of Your Child's Absence

To support parents/carers, our school accepts the following five ways of communicating a student absence:

-  **School Bytes**
1. School Bytes is our preferred method of communication. Parents/carers who are connected to the app will receive a notification about their child's absence which they can respond instantly through the app.
-  **Phone call** - parents/carers can call the school office on **98201499** between the hours of 8.30am – 3pm.
-  **Seesaw** Parents/carers can message their child's class teacher via the Seesaw App to notify them of their child's absence.
-  Parents/carers can write a note and send it to the class teacher via their child.
-  Parents/carers can meet the teacher in person and inform them of their child's absence.

*We encourage parents/carers to communicate any absence promptly (**on the day of absence or the day their child returns to school**) so that their child's attendance record is kept up to date. Note: if their child is absent **for more than 2 days** then a **medical certificate** is required to justify the absence as explained.*