



ATTENDANCE

Shakopee Public Schools

Shakopee Elementary Schools Attendance Information

No Big Deal . . . Or Is It?

Attendance has been shown to have a significant impact on student achievement and attitude toward learning. Here are some examples of situations you may encounter:

Your child didn't want to go to school today. S(he) said, "I don't feel well." So you let him/her stay home.

It's very cold outside and you don't have a car available to drive your child to school. So

you let him/her stay home.

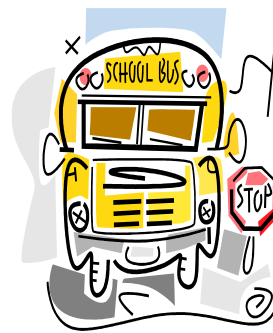
You usually drive your child to school and your car won't start today. So you let your child stay home.

Your child frequently arrives a few minutes late for school because of the many things that have to be done as part of the busing morning routine.

These may not sound like big deals, but

they are! How we respond sends a message regarding the value we place on honoring our commitments.

So, in fact these are a very big deal!



As a parent...

- You want your child to be successful in school and in life!
- You have the ability to ensure the regular attendance of your child at school!
- You CAN make a difference!

Inside this issue:

- Reasons to keep your child home
- Significant illnesses
- When to keep your child home
- School contact information

The Shakopee Public Schools thank the DuPage Truancy Prevention Services for their resource information.

Let's work together!

Helping your child to succeed is a **very big deal**. We are willing and eager to help. If you are having a problem getting your child to attend regularly,

call the school. We have staff trained who are able to work with you and help you. Please don't cover up the real problem by calling your child in

"sick" when s(he) really isn't. That may only increase the problem. A child who misses school today without a valid reason could become the dropout of the future.

ATTENDANCE LINES

Eagle Creek: 952.496.5923
Jackson: 952.496.5803
Red Oak: 952.496.5953
Sun Path: 952.496.5893
Sweeney: 952.496.5833

Leave a message 24
hours a day on these
direct lines!

Valid Reasons to Keep Your Child

Home from School

- Significant Illness
- Family Emergency
- Observance of a religious holiday
- Death in the family

What is a “significant illness?”

(The nurse, special services facilitator or principal may ask you to provide a doctor’s note for extended absences related to illness)

School nurses have come up with some guidelines for you to use in deciding when your child is too ill to be in school.

Keep your child home:

- If a rash is present that has not been evaluated by a physician.
- If your child's oral temperature exceeds 100 °, or 1 to 2 degrees above the child's normal temperature. A child with such a fever should remain home for 24 hours after the temperature returns to normal.
- If your child vomits and continues to experience nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea.

Your child will need to stay home for 24 hours after the vomiting or diarrhea stops.

- If your child complains of severe, persistent pain. The symptom should be referred to a physician for evaluation.
- If your child shows signs of upper respiratory infection (cold symptoms) **serious enough to interfere** with the child's ability to learn.
- If there are open sores that have not been evaluated by a physician.
- If there are signs of infestation with lice (nits in the hair, itchy scalp). The child should be evaluated for

treatment with a product that destroys lice (pediculicide).

- If there are signs of conjunctivitis (“pinkeye”) with matter coming from one or both eyes, itching, crusts on eyelids. The child should be evaluated by a physician.

If your child has a diagnosis of these communicable diseases:

- **Strep Throat:** Child must stay home for 24 hours after antibiotic is started.
- **Chicken Pox:** Child may return after last pox has scabbed over.
- **Impetigo/Scabies:** Child may return after treatment.