

Punctuality

Every minute counts

Punctuality is an important life skill

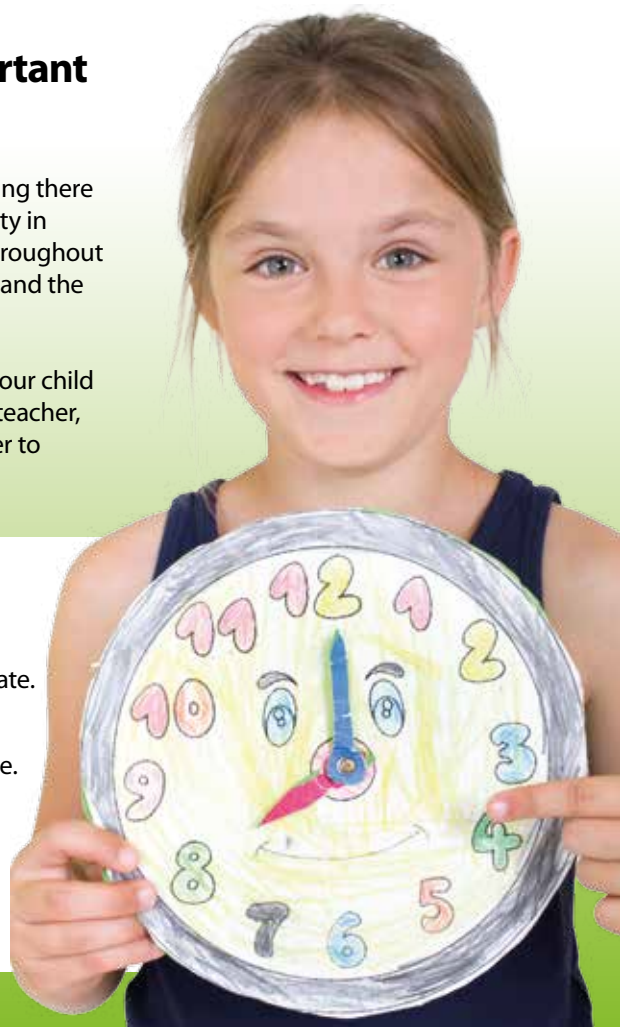
Good school attendance includes being there on time. The habit of good punctuality in primary school will help your child throughout their education and on into adult life and the workplace.

If you are having a problem getting your child to school on time, talk with the class teacher, Family Liaison worker or Head Teacher to discuss what support can be offered.

Types of lateness

- **Late before the register closes** - when your child is a few minutes late.
- **Late after register closes** - this counts as an unauthorised absence.

Persistent lateness, after the register closes, can result in prosecution under Section 444 of the 1996 Education Act.



Why is punctuality such a GOOD thing?

Being on time for school:

- gets your child's day off to a good start and puts your child in a positive frame of mind so that they can make the most of their learning
- sets positive patterns for the future
- leads to good attendance
- leads to better achievement
- helps your child understand that school is important and education is valuable
- helps your child develop a sense of responsibility for him/herself and towards others
- helps your child make and keep friends
- leads to success and self confidence

Why is lateness such a BAD thing?

Being late for school:

- gets your child's day off to a bad start
- can be embarrassing for your child
- will be noticed by other children who might make negative comments
- may lead to your child losing confidence
- may lead to your child feeling confused all day. They will have missed out on vital instructions and bits of news at the start of the day
- disrupts the lesson for everyone
- can cause your child to fall behind with their work
- creates a bad habit that can be hard to break in secondary school and in the workplace
- can lead to poor attendance-if your child thinks it's OK to be late for school they can soon start to think it's OK not to go to school at all

Lateness = Lost learning

Each minute of school missed is a minute of your child's education. Persistent lateness can add up to days of learning lost over a school year as shown below:

5 minutes late each day	=	3 days lost
10 minutes late each day	=	6.5 days lost
15 minutes late each day	=	10 days lost
20 minutes late each day	=	13 days lost
30 minutes late each day	=	19 days lost

Take action

If you are having problems getting your child to school on time it is important that you speak with the school as soon as possible to discuss how to resolve any issues.