

Support your child in preparing for transition to secondary school



Every Day Matters

Good attendance builds brighter futures

At Ecton Brook Primary School, we believe that every day in school gives children the best chance to learn, make friends and reach their potential.



The impact of absence

Even small amounts of time away from school can make a big difference. The more often children miss school, the more they miss out on learning, friendships and experiences.

95% attendance That's just approximately 9.5 days absent in a 190-day school year (about 2 weeks). 	90% attendance That's 19 days absent in a year (about 4 weeks). 	80% attendance That's 38 days absent in a year (about 8 weeks). 
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That's a lot of missed learning!

What children can miss

When children are absent, they can miss:

-  Key learning and skills that build on what they already know.
-  Time with their friends and important social experiences.
-  Special events, trips and extra-curricular activities.
-  Opportunities to build confidence, resilience and independence.

School isn't just about lessons – it's about the whole child. 

What the DfE says

The Department for Education (DfE) has found a clear link between attendance and attainment, even where other factors are taken into account (such as prior attainment and pupil characteristics).

83.9%  of pupils with no missed sessions achieved the expected standard.	40.2%  of pupils who were persistently absent achieved the expected standard.
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It's not about blame

We know that sometimes absence is due to genuine illness, family circumstances or other challenges. We want to work with you, not judge you.

If you're worried about your child's attendance, please – talk to us early. We're here to help. 



SATs and Transition to Secondary School

Year 6 is an important final year in your child's education socially, emotionally and academically. We know that the pace of consolidating learning in Year 6 can be challenging and that missed lessons are difficult to catch up on. Government Standard Assessment Tests (SATs), taken in May 2027, will provide your child's secondary school with key academic information. We want our Year 6 pupils to feel confident about their SATs tests and their transition to secondary school. Learning to be 'secondary ready' by developing key skills such as resilience, independence and confidence are threaded through the Year 6 curriculum, in every lesson.

Please support your child by ensuring that they have good attendance at school and that they arrive on time each day. Encourage them to attend school even when they have minor aches and pains or colds. We will always send your child home if we feel that they really can't cope!

If your child needs support with attendance, we are happy to help. Please have a chat with the teacher or a Family Support Worker.

Good attendance at school is not just valuable, it's essential!