

Welcome & Our Shared Goal

Going to school every day is the single most important habit for academic success and personal growth. When students attend school consistently, they build strong relationships, stay engaged in their learning, and gain confidence.

- **Why Every Day Counts:** A student with 90% attendance has actually missed one full month of school by the end of the academic year. Research shows that students missing 10% or more of school are significantly more likely to face lower test scores and encounter challenges graduating from high school.
- **Our Commitment:** We are dedicated to creating a safe, welcoming, and exciting environment where every child feels valued, supported, and motivated to attend every single day.

Key NYC Attendance Policies

- **Attendance is a Legal Record:** Schools are legally required to record whether a student is present or absent every day. Electronic attendance records become permanent in mid-July.
- **Excused Absences Still Count Toward Total Days:** Absences due to illness, medical emergencies, or religious observances can be marked as "excused," but they still remain part of the official attendance record. However, excused absences do not count against students for school awards, special activities, or PSAL eligibility.
- **Arriving Late is Always Better Than Missing the Day:** A student who arrives late is counted as present for the day. While arriving on time helps your child start the day smoothly, arriving late is far better than missing the entire day of instruction. Late students will never be turned away from their academic classes.
- **Absence Notifications & Follow-Up:** Schools must contact families after unexplained absence, and parents are asked to provide a reason. Additional school outreach is required after 10 consecutive missed days or 20 total missed days in Pre-K through 8th grade. Please keep your phone numbers and addresses updated on your NYC Schools account and Blue Cards.
- **Grading & Academic Credit:** Attendance records alone cannot be used to fail a student, prevent promotion, or prevent graduation. However, missed classwork can impact grades, so our teachers provide work online so students can complete make-up work and stay on track.

Positive Initiatives & Student Rewards

We believe in encouraging and celebrating good and improved attendance! Throughout the school year, we host fun schoolwide activities, classroom challenges, and special reward events:

- Classroom Competitions & Poster Challenges: Classes compete together for attendance posters and milestones.
- Classroom Rewards:
 - Pre-K – Grade 2: Classroom bubble parties.
 - Grades 3 – 5: Extra recess time.
 - Grades 6 – 8: Class representative prizes.
- Special Celebrations & Activities: Students participating in attendance milestones can enjoy snack attacks (in-class treats), pizza parties, DIY craft parties, in-school dance parties, and cooking classes.
- Exciting Trips & Events: We host special reward outings including bowling trips, Spyscape visits, Broadway show trips, movie raffles, game days, Spirit Weeks, and test pep rallies for STAR attendance
- Celebrating Growth: We celebrate both perfect attendance and attendance improvement, ensuring every student who makes progress has the chance to win prizes and attend special events!

How We Support Your Family

If your child is facing obstacles that make attending school difficult, please reach out to us right away so we can help:

- Health & Wellness Support: Our parent coordinator, social worker, guidance counselor, and school nurse can assist with Asthma Action Plans, 504 accommodations for extra breaks, mental health services, or Home/Hospital Instruction.
- Academic & Homework Help: We connect students with take-home academic plans, tutoring programs, and Dial-a-Teacher homework assistance.
- Transportation & Basic Needs: We can assist with yellow bus routes, student MetroCards, public transit planning, or connections for basic needs such as housing, clothing, school supplies, and toiletries.
- Personalized Attendance Plans: Families can request, or we might start a personalized attendance contract with goals, student mentoring, and positive rewards.

Simple Tips for Families at Home

- Set regular bedtime and morning routines to ensure a smooth start to the day.
- Lay out backpacks, clothes, and supplies the night before.

- Plan family trips, vacations, and non-urgent medical appointments during scheduled school breaks.
- Talk positively about school every day and celebrate your child's achievements

Prompt

create a infographic for warden and seachers that includes the expectations for their role and the location of there post. Include school colors and tigers.