

Attendance Takeover



Dear Families, At The Marches School, we believe that attendance is **everyone's responsibility and the foundation for success, wellbeing and future opportunity**. We want every student to feel safe, valued and a strong sense of belonging so that coming to school is a positive and meaningful experience every day.

We know that every family's circumstances are different. Sometimes barriers to attendance arise, and when they do, we want you to know that we are here to help. By working together, we can ensure every young person has the best possible opportunity to thrive.

At The Marches School, our vision for attendance is:



Belonging comes first

Every child should feel welcomed, safe and connected.



Attendance is everyone's responsibility

School staff, students and families all have an important role to play.



Early support is better than late intervention

We want to identify worries quickly and provide help before difficulties become bigger challenges.



Relationships matter

Strong partnerships with a home and school are key to improving attendance.



We celebrate progress

Our focus is on encouragement, resilience and growth.



FOCUS

Your Child's Crew Leader = Your First Point of Contact. At The Marches School, every child belongs to a **Crew**. Your child's **Crew Leader** knows them well and is the best person to contact if you have any concerns about attendance, wellbeing or barriers to coming to school.

Please contact your Crew Leader if:

- ✓ Your child is anxious about school
- ✓ There are friendship concerns
- ✓ There are family circumstances affecting attendance
- ✓ Mornings are becoming difficult
- ✓ You need advice or support
- ✓ Attendance is becoming a worry

REMINDERS & NOTICES



Reporting Your Child's Absence

If your child is unwell and cannot attend school, please let us know by **8.30am**.

You can contact us in any of the following ways:



Telephone

01691 664400 (Option 1)



Email

marattendance@mar.mmat.co.uk



WhatsApp

07572 971076 (Marches Attendance Office)



Arbor Parent Portal

Submit an absence through the Attendance section.

When reporting an absence, please provide:

- Child's name
- Year group
- Crew
- Reason for absence

The 18-Day Threshold

Once a student reaches **18 days** of absence during the school year, they are effectively locked into **Persistent Absence (below 90% attendance)**.

Persistent Absence means a child has missed the equivalent of almost **four weeks of education**. This can have a significant impact on:

- Academic achievement
- Confidence in lessons
- Friendship groups
- Wellbeing and sense of belonging
- Future outcomes and opportunities

The earlier we work together, the easier it is to prevent attendance concerns from becoming established patterns.

Why Every Day Counts

Missing school means missing learning, friendships, experiences and opportunities. Rather than focusing only on percentages, we will increasingly talk about **Days Lost**, helping families understand the real impact of absence.

Days Missed	Attendance
5 Days	97%
10 Days	95%
18 Days	90%
19+ Days	Below 90%



UPCOMING EVENTS

Click [here](#) to view our upcoming events. Events at a glance: Click [here](#) to view our term dates.



NEWS

Click [here](#) to view our latest news articles.



Why not also follow us on Facebook [@MarchesSchool](#) for a wealth of content from students and staff, along with school celebrations to competitions. We encourage you to get interactive with our posts!

To hear about news from across the Trust, why not also follow [@MarchesAcademyTrust](#).

