

Why attendance matters – question suggestions for student survey

The Evaluation Resource Hub has a [Surveys](#) webpage with information and advice, as well as simple steps for developing surveys.

Note, the following questions are suggestions only.

Schools should consider the needs and expectations of the school community, as well as other sources of evidence.

What are your top 3 reasons for coming to school?

(suggestions might include)

- I think learning is important
- I can eat breakfast or lunch at school
- My parent/carer encourages me to attend
- My friends encourage me to attend
- Coming to school helps me stay out of trouble
- My classes are interesting
- I want to participate in after-school or extra-curricular activities
- My school is a safe place
- **Other (option for students to add text)**

Which school activities encourage you to come to school?

(suggestions might include)

- Fun subjects
- Great teachers
- Access to library
- Access to internet
- Canteen
- Sport
- School equipment e.g. gym, playground
- After school activities
- Special interest groups or clubs e.g. music, choir, art, debating
- Spending time with friends

Tell us about other activities that encourage you to come to school?

(free response)

When you miss a day (or days) of school, what are the top 3 reasons?

(suggestions might include)

- I cannot wake up in time
- I have difficulty getting to or from school
- I don't care about getting good grades
- I don't understand the school work
- I have to care for a brother/sister or family member
- I have a job
- I have a doctor or dentist appointment
- I am sick
- Someone else in my family is unwell
- I am concerned about my safety at school
- I am concerned about my safety on the way to and from school
- I am suspended
- **Other (option to add response)**

Continued over page.

What are some reasons why you might be late to school?

(free response)

Does your parent/carer talk about why going to school is important?

(suggestions might include)

- Yes often
- Sometimes, occasionally
- Not often
- No, never

Which of the following do you think would be the most helpful for getting students to school on time?

(suggestions might include)

- Having someone to check in with every day
- Getting help on how to use public transport
- Using an alarm clock
- Getting a wake-up call from school
- Caring about grades and finishing school
- Having more after school activities
- A later start time to the school day
- Other (option to add response)

Should good or improved attendance be recognised?

If yes - how would you like it to be recognised?

(suggestions might include)

- Certificates
- Awards
- Rewards e.g. vouchers
- School news, announcement
- **Other (option to add)**

Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about attendance at school?

(free response)