

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

# THE IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDANCE HABITS IN THE EARLY YEARS



Developing the habit of going to school every day is vitally important so your child does not miss out on important ideas, concepts, knowledge and skills they need for future learning.

Going to school every day helps children learn the important life skill of ‘showing up’ – at school, at work, to sport and other commitments.



### Did you know?

- In the early years of school, many concepts are taught in a sequence. This means that if your child is often away from school, it can make it difficult to catch up later.
- The Western Australian Telethon Kids Institute has found that the attendance habits set in Kindergarten and Pre-Primary are likely to continue throughout a child's school life, so it is important for them to go to school every day.
- Under The *School Education Act 1999* it is compulsory for all enrolled students to attend school, or participate in an educational program of the school, on the days on which the school is open for instruction

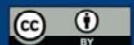


### What can you do?

- Talk about school in a positive way
- Develop good routines that help them know what to expect and feel secure in new environments.

For more information please contact:

Michelle Columbus – Peel Language Development School Attendance Coordinator



### You can help by:

- Arranging for your child to meet a friend before school so they can go in together
- Volunteering and helping out at school
- Getting uniforms and lunches ready the night before
- Arriving and collecting your child from school on time
- Making sure your child gets nutritious meals each day and enough sleep each night
- Making appointments with doctors, dentists and specialists outside school time
- Making holiday plans during school holidays and not during school terms.

If your child is unwell or you are having trouble getting your child to school, please let your child's teacher or our office know straight away. By having information about your child's absences, we are better able to help you.



### What will the staff at Peel Language Development School do?

- Offer developmentally, socially and culturally responsive learning opportunities.
- Provide predictable routines to help students know what to expect to reduce anxiety about going to school.
- Monitor every student's attendance including talking with you about any absences.
- Work with you to overcome problems affecting your child's attendance.



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