



EVERY DAY COUNTS

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SECONDARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your teenager's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

SCHOOL IS BETTER WHEN YOUR TEENAGER IS THERE



EVERY VOICE COUNTS

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission or skip out of school during the day. There can be many reasons for truancy; the best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

While all absences can effect academic performance, DET’s statistics show that unexcused absences are a much stronger indicator of lower reading and maths achievement.

School refusal - School refusing children experience significant emotional distress not only when going to school but also at the thought of going to school; they may be absent from school for weeks or even months at a time. School refusal differs from truancy as children generally stay home with the knowledge of the parents and despite their best efforts to encourage their child to go to school. See: [My child or teenager has anxiety](#)

BEING AWAY FROM SCHOOL FOR 1 DAY A FORTNIGHT EQUALS MISSING



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Seek help from your school if you are concerned about your child's attendance and wellbeing. Schools want to work in partnership with parents to support student attendance and wellbeing.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/studentmanagement/attendance/Pages/improve-attendance.aspx>