



Attendance Policy

At Willunga High School student attendance is a high priority. We believe that students who attend regularly are more likely to be successful at school.

Willunga High School has implemented an SMS system to assist with early identification of non-attendance or irregular attendance. This message system will ensure early parent notification and response. The Willunga High School Attendance Policy aims to enhance the process of parents and teachers working as a partnership to support students for future success at school. Student attendance records are available via the SEQTA Parent Portal.

Compulsory enrolment and attendance at school

All children aged between 6 and 17 years of age must be enrolled and attend school regularly. Under the Education act of South Australia, parents and/or caregivers are held responsible for the regular attendance of all children in their care.

Why regular attendance is important a message to students

- The more you attend, the more you will learn and the greater likelihood of you being successful
- Getting the maximum benefit from school will improve your options for your future life
- Attending school regularly will develop skills and attitudes such as self-discipline, punctuality and improved time management
- You will learn and practice the necessary social skills to live and work successfully with others
- You will be safer at school than unsupervised in the community
- Attending school provides opportunities for socialising with your friends and will help you to maintain relationships over a length of time

Does my child have to attend school every day?

Yes, unless you have provided the school with an acceptable reason preventing the child's attendance such as:

- Your child is too sick to attend or has an infectious disease such as chicken pox, mumps or head lice
- Your child is incapacitated by injury preventing movement around the school
- Your child is accompanying you on a family holiday which cannot be arranged in school vacation time – an EXEMPTION from School Form will need to be completed prior (please contact Student Services). Approval from the Principal can be given for a period of up to four weeks. Any longer must be approved by DECD

WILLUNGA HIGH SCHOOL

- Your child is at an eligible age to move on to other education options or employment as well as school – an EXEMPTION from School Form will need to be completed prior
- Your child is leaving or moving schools please contact us to complete the Student Leaver process

If possible, dental and medical appointments should be made outside of school hours

Did you know?

- If students are absent for 5 days every term it means they you would have missed half a year of school by the time they finish Year 12
- Research shows that one day missed takes four days of effort to catch up

Under the law, Centrelink has access to school Attendance records and can reclaim monies paid if a student is receiving an allowance and has more than 5 unexplained absences per term.

Who can help with problems?

- Homegroup Teacher
- Wellbeing Leaders
- Year Level Coordinators
- Deputy Principal
- Principal