

Information on compulsory school attendance

All children attending nursery class for six-year-olds, primary school or adapted primary school are subject to compulsory school attendance. This means that they must go to school and participate in lessons every school day.

As the person with parental responsibility for your child, you are responsible for ensuring that your child attends school. The school is responsible for ensuring that your child participates in lessons.

A child is permitted to be absent from school for a valid reason. An example of a valid reason is that the child is ill or has been granted permission to be absent by the headteacher.

The headteacher of the child's school decides whether the child has permission to be absent from school. The headteacher may give this permission if there are special reasons to do so, such as a funeral. The headteacher may also refuse permission.

If for example you are planning to take a trip, you must request permission in good time beforehand. If the headteacher does not approve the absence, the child is not permitted to be absent from school.

If the child is nonetheless absent without a valid reason, you, as the person with parental responsibility, may be required to pay a penalty (fines). A trip that has not been approved by the headteacher is an example of an absence without a valid reason.