

MISSING = MISSING SCHOOL = OUT

MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY

DID YOU KNOW?

- **YOUR CHILD CAN SUFFER ACADEMICALLY** if they miss 10 percent (about 17 days) of school. That can be just **two days a month**, and that can happen before you know it.

- **IT DOESN'T MATTER IF THESE ABSENCES ARE EXCUSED OR UNEXCUSED.** They all represent lost time in the classroom and a lost opportunity for your child to learn.

- **ATTENDANCE MATTERS AS EARLY AS KINDERGARTEN.** Studies show that children who miss too many days in kindergarten and first grade have trouble mastering reading.

- **BY 6TH GRADE, CHRONIC ABSENCE** is a leading warning sign that a student will drop out.

- **ABSENCES CAN AFFECT THE WHOLE CLASSROOM** if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

- **ATTENDANCE IS AN IMPORTANT SKILL THAT WILL HELP YOUR CHILD GRADUATE** and do well in college and at work.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- **FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN, SET A REGULAR BEDTIME AND MORNING ROUTINE.** Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.

- **FOR OLDER CHILDREN, YOU CAN SET UP HOMEWORK AND BEDTIME ROUTINES.** Make sure that when the lights go out, so do the cell phones, video games and computers.

- **TRY NOT TO SCHEDULE MEDICAL AND DENTAL APPOINTMENTS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY.** If absolutely necessary, schedule appointments for after 10 a.m.

- **DON'T LET YOUR CHILD STAY HOME UNLESS THEY ARE TRULY SICK.** Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.

- **STAY ON TOP OF YOUR CHILD'S SOCIAL CONTACTS.** Peer pressure can lead to skipping, while students without many friends can feel isolated.

- **SET AN EXAMPLE FOR YOUR CHILD.** Show him or her that attendance matters to you and that you won't allow an absence unless someone is truly sick.

- **YOU CAN TURN TO YOUR SCHOOL FOR HELP.** If your child or family is having challenges with transportation, housing or health issues, reach out to your school for support.

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION**

HISD ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES 713.556.6800

WWW.HOUSTONISD.ORG/ATTENDANCE