



Student Attendance Policy

School absenteeism and truancy can impact significantly on a student's learning and wellbeing.

Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance is associated, on average, with higher student achievement. Additionally, attending school every day helps children to build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience. Students with irregular and poor attendance often struggle at school and the value they receive from their education is greatly diminished as a result.

At Clontarf Beach SHS student attendance is a priority for us and we value the partnership with parents in relation to this issue. Consequently, we have developed this policy that outlines the process that we use at the school.

Process

1. A text message is sent home every day at approximately 10am for students who are absent without explanation.
2. Care teachers monitor student attendance and follow up on outstanding absences and students who have attendance patterns that are of concern.
3. When sending a student home sick, if possible when the parent arrives the outstanding absences will be addressed while speaking to Parent/Guardian.
4. On a fortnightly basis, a letter is generated for students with three or more unexplained absences. Care teachers are given these letters and ensure that students return them within three days.
5. A letter with any outstanding absences is provided to parent/guardian at parent teacher interviews for response.
6. House Deans and/or House Leaders of students with less than 90% attendance will contact the Parent/Guardian to discuss attendance issues. Where required they will organise Pacific Islander or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Teacher Aide, Guidance Officer or School Based Police Officer support.

'we make the difference' for your child



ClontarfBeach
State High School

7. Students who are attending at 90% or better, and those students who show significant improvement in their attendance, will be recognised as part of a school wide rewards program.
8. Students with an attendance rate of less than 90% will be unable to participate in extra-curricular activities. If there is a genuine reason, supported by appropriate documentation for the absences, parents are encouraged to contact their child's House Leader to discuss. When their attendance rate improves to 90% or above they will be able to participate in extra-curricular activities again. Letters will be sent to parents notifying them of their child's ineligibility at regular intervals throughout the school year.
9. For students whose attendance is still not satisfactory then Education Queensland policy regarding enforcement of Compulsory Schooling will be enacted. As a consequence of continued poor attendance parents of these students may be prosecuted by the police.