

RINCON VALLEY UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES

Our goal is to ensure that every student attends school regularly.

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and in life. **Regular school attendance is required by law.**

We realize some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. But, we also know that when students miss too much school—regardless of the reason – it can cause them to fall behind academically. Your child is less likely to succeed if he or she is chronically absent. Research shows:

- Children chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade are much less likely to read at grade level by the end of 3rd grade.
- By 6th grade, chronic absence is a proven early warning sign for students at risk for dropping out of school.
- By 9th grade good attendance can predict graduation rates even better than 8th grade test scores.

A child is chronically absent if he or she misses just two days every month!!

What is considered an excused absence?

- Student illness
- Quarantined under direction of county or city health officer
- Purpose of medical, dental, optometric, or chiropractic services
- Bereavement
- Religious Holiday

What is considered truancy?

- Absent without a valid excuse three full days
- Tardy or absent more than 30 minutes without a valid excuse

We don't want your child to fall behind in school and get discouraged. Please ensure that your child attends school every day and arrives on time. Here are a few practical tips to help support regular attendance:

- Make sure your children keep a regular bedtime and establish a morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Ensure your children go to school every day unless they are truly sick
- Avoid scheduling vacations or doctor's appointments when school is in session.
- Talk to teachers and counselors for advice if your children feel anxious about going to school.

We want your child to be successful in school! If you have any questions or need more information please contact your child's school.

Please keep this for your reference.

Sign and submit the "Student/Parent Acknowledgement of Guidelines/Agreements" form.