

## Help Your Child Succeed in Preschool:

### Build the Habit of Good Attendance

Early School Success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

#### Did you know?

Most of the missed days in preschool are excused absences called in by parents, but every absence affects your child's learning.

Your child is building a foundation – every day matters!

- An absence is an absence – if your child isn't in school they are missing out.
- We can help. If you are having trouble getting to school or getting to school on time, talk to us.
- Preschool is school. This is the beginning of your child's educational career – and a good start matters.

Showing up on time every day is important to your child's success and learning from preschool forward.

Missing 10% of preschool (only one or two days every few weeks) can:

- Make it harder to develop early reading skills.
- Make it harder to get ready for Kindergarten.
- Create a pattern of poor attendance which could follow your child throughout their schooling.

High quality preschool programs have many benefits for your child.

*The habits your child develops in preschool will continue throughout school.*

*You can make the most of preschool by encouraging your child to attend every day!*

## What you can do --

Your enthusiasm is a big boost to your child's success!

Work with your child and his/her teacher to help your child develop strong attendance.

Talk about it! Get Excited! Be Ready!

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Be encouraging – every day isn't perfect, but you can help your child stay positive.
- Help your child prepare – children often struggle with change, even small change. Review the daily schedule, talk about the menu, introduce him/her to the classroom teachers.

# You are your child's first and best teacher.

Teaching your child about the importance of regular attendance makes a difference.

Practice Good Habits! Stay Informed! Stay Committed!

- Young children are more likely to get sick than older children. Practice frequent hand-washing.
- Brush your teeth together – your mouth is your body's first line of defense against illness.
- Call the school when your child is staying home – every time.
- Attendance is lowest in the winter and right before school breaks. Keep your child coming every day.
- Talk to your child's teacher about activities you can do with your child on the weekends and during breaks to keep them engaged.

