Children enjoy coming to Eleanor Palmer. This means we have the best attendance in Camden. Getting to school on time every day means your child is **ready** to learn, one of EP's three rules! However, children can only do this with <u>your</u> support - coming to school on time on every one of our 190 school days.

Every time you hurry your child along, every time you get them to school by 9am or before, you **succeed** in giving them **a powerful, permanent message that education is precious**. That message will stay with them and will last a lifetime.

Excellent attendance = academic and wellbeing success!

Children who have excellent attendance and punctuality achieve more highly and progress more rapidly across the curriculum. They make lasting friendships and know they belong in team EP.

It is <u>your</u> responsibility to ensure your children attend school on time and don't miss out on a moment of learning. We are here to support you with this and will do anything in our power to help. Let's work together to give your child every opportunity.

100% Outstanding attendance	Our aim for *every* child so they have every opportunity to learn
97% Good	6 days absent At least 24 lessons lost
95% Adequate	10 days absent At least 40 lessons lost
92% Needs improvement	15 days absent At least 60 lessons lost
Below 92% Unsatisfactory	90% attendance = 19 days absent At least 76 lessons lost, 100s or 1,000s of learning moments lost. Cause of concern.

Each time your child misses part of a lesson, our teachers and LSAs work even harder to help them to catch-up because they don't want anyone to fall behind. This means time spent with your child one to one - time lost to their classmates.

Just a few minutes

Experience has shown us that children who are regularly late by 5 or 10 minutes do not just miss out on this time; **they suffer a cumulative effect**.

By missing out on the start of learning time, they are on the back foot. Their teaching team will support them, but they may struggle for the rest of that lesson because they have missed learning with the group at the right pace.

This has a knock-on effect in the next lesson, and so on.

When children come in late, they may feel insecure because they missed out on all the morning social interactions which are the glue that help them to feel secure - that they belong.

Children who miss lots of school time, can begin to feel negative about school, and themselves as learners. This can persist through primary into secondary.

At Eleanor Palmer we want to build an attitude to education and habits of being on time, being involved, being included, which will help children to be confident in who they are as learners.

Setting that alarm clock **just a few minutes** earlier is a small but powerful gift that you can give your child.

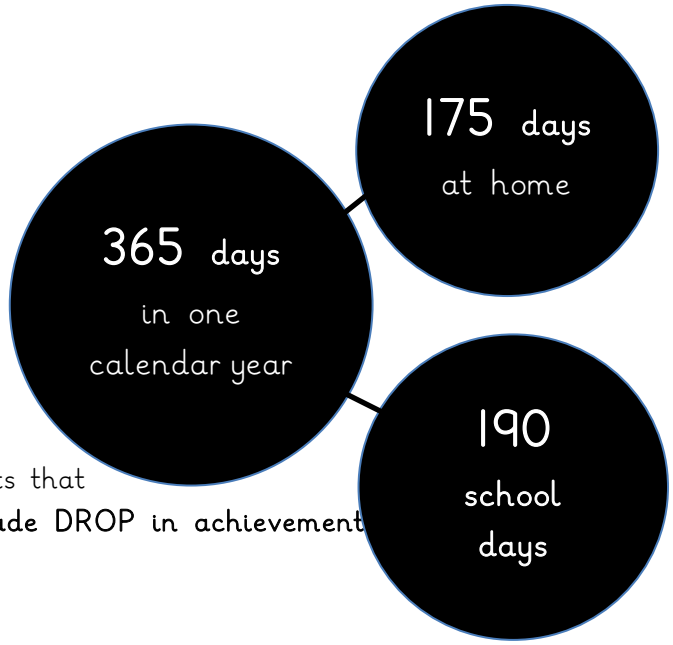
What should you do when they say they're unwell?

If your child says they feel unwell in the morning, pick up the phone to us if you would like advice. Children often just need a drink of water, a good breakfast, a cuddle or an early night the next evening.

They are often fine once they come to school and we will always call you if they are unwell. If they're just a bit under the weather, let us know and we can keep an eye on them.

If you do decide they are too ill to come to school, they may recover quickly. Do bring them in at any point; a later start is much better than missing a whole day.

They are late by ...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years at primary and secondary, that is...
5 minutes a day	25 minutes a week	Nearly 4 days a year	Nearly quarter of a year
10 minutes a day	50 minutes a week	Nearly 1.5 weeks a year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes a day	1 hour 40 minutes a week	More than 2 ½ weeks a year	Almost 1 whole year



There is a serious long-term impact of absence. Department for Education research suggests that **17 missed school days a year, or 91% attendance, causes, on average, a whole GCSE grade DROP in achievement**

Why come to school at 8:45 am?

At Eleanor Palmer we open our gates at 8:45 am and the children can go in to their classrooms before the register is taken at 9 am. This is an opportunity for your child to say hello to their friends and teachers, put away their coats and water bottles, then settle in to some early work. **Early work** might be a bit of maths, reading, handwriting, spelling practice, or an activity from anywhere in our curriculum - from geography to art, which does three important jobs.

Coming to school at 8:45 am each day gives you **47 extra hours** of learning a year!

Early work:

1) **Interrupts forgetting** so that vital learning is practiced and remembered, forging pathways in the long-term memory.
2) Gives your child **extra learning** they will be using during the day's lessons.
3) Gives your child a chance to **acclimatise** back into their classroom, which can be a big transition from being outside or at home with their family.

Before and during registration, your child has the chance to look at the visual timetable for the day so they know what's coming and they might want to ask their teacher a question about one of the lessons.

In Nursery we have a softer start and in Reception and the Infants, children are dropped off by their grown-ups who might see some of this happening, and have the chance to see work on the walls or in their children's books. It's great to get into punctual habits early on. In EYFS all the learning is set up for the day ready for the children to settle in just before 9am. The register is taken at 9am from Nursery through to Year 6 and teachers talk through the day ahead with all classes.