

Help for families at school

People who can help if your child is facing difficulties in coming to school:

- Head of Year for your child's year level
- Guidance Officer
- School Nurse
- Deputy Principal
- Engagement Officer
- Social Worker
- Community Education Counsellor

In the first instance contact your child's respective Head of Year, and advise Administration staff that the absence is school refusal.

Engagement Officers are able to come to your house and meet with you and your child.

Engagement Officer:

Jessi Pennisi
4636 7500

Help for families in the community

Toowoomba Youth Service

Ph: 4639 1333

Provides support to young people and their families.

Headspace

Ph: 4639 9000

Mental health service for young people.

Lifeline

Ph: 4632 9299

Counselling service for individuals and families.

Parentline

Ph: 1300 30 1300

Provides support, counselling and parent education over the phone.

Kids Helpline

Ph: 1800 551 800

Support for young people aged up to 25 years

Goolburri Family Support Service (FSS)

Ph: 4634 3088

Provides support for Indigenous families who are facing difficulties.

Family and Child Connect

Ph: 4617 7600

Connects families to the services they need.

Act for Kids

Ph: 4687 0200

Help for families under pressure.

60 Ramsay Street
Toowoomba Qld 4350
Ph: (07) 4636 7500

Email: info@centheighshs.eq.edu.au
Web: www.centheighshs.eq.edu.au



Every Day Counts

Attendance Improvement Program



Attendance at School

It's the law!

Under the law, you are required to make sure your child is enrolled and attends school on **ALL** school days unless there is a legitimate reason why he/she should not do so.

The law states that until a student finishes Year 10, or turns 16 years of age, he/she must attend school every day.

After this time, and until the student turns 17 years of age, he/she is required to either be earning (employed full-time) or learning, (enrolled at school, TAFE or another recognised institution).

If a student does not comply, the Police will be notified and parents may be prosecuted and fined.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"

Nelson Mandela

Why is school so important?

The facts:

- * Students who attend regularly attain better results than those who do not
- * Students develop positive habits for later in life – punctuality, self-discipline and organisation
- * Students develop positive social and interpersonal skills
- * Students are able to process new subject content, skills and understandings more readily

In our school:

Students who have ongoing low attendance may not have the opportunity to participate in the Senior Formal, School Socials, extracurricular excursions or represent the school at sport (or in other areas) or participate in such programs as school-based apprenticeships and traineeships.

Similarly, students with regular, frequent absence may not progress to the next year level as too much valuable learning will have been missed.

Parents and carers

It is your responsibility to:

- * Make sure your child attends school every day and is on time
- * Let the school know if your child is absent, and the reason for this by ringing the school and/or providing a note
- * Arrange medical appointments outside of school time
- * Arrange family activities out of school hours
- * Establish when your child's reason for staying home is genuine and act accordingly
- * Arrange family holidays during school holidays
- * If you recognise behaviour that may be school refusal contact the school directly

For further information and support visit Education Queensland's Every Day Counts:

<http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/index.html>