

ATTENDANCE AT PRIMARY SCHOOL

At Balga PS, we want your children to do their very best. To get the best education, they need to go to school every day.

We know that some children may need extra encouragement to go to school regularly. By working together, our school community can address some of the reasons why your child may not want to go to school.

Some common problems you may have getting your child to school:

- They won't get out of bed in the morning.
- They go to bed late at night.
- They can't find their uniform, books or school bag.
- They are slow to eat breakfast.
- They haven't done their homework or are avoiding a test or assignment.
- They are watching television or playing video games before school.



You may also be worried that your child:

- is being bullied
- may not have friends or is not fitting in
- may be feeling lost at school
- fears getting into trouble or failing
- may have learning difficulties
- may not be getting along with a teacher.

What can you do to help?

- Have a set time for your child to go to bed at night and get up in the morning.
- Have their uniform and school bag ready the night before.
- Have a set time for breakfast.
- Set a time for daily homework activities.
- Talk about school positively.
- If running late, encourage your child to still go to school and reassure them that you will let the school know.
- Organise for your child to meet a friend before school so they can arrive at school together.
- Get involved at school through volunteering or participate in reading programs, or join the Parents and Citizens' Association.



Do you need to let the school know if your child will be away from school?

Yes, you need to let the front office know that your child will be absent from school and the reason why as soon as possible.

Having information about why a child is missing school helps us plan for their return to school and to work out whether we can provide any further help to you.

What will staff at Balga PS do to help?

- Offer developmentally, socially and culturally responsive learning opportunities to engage students.
- Monitor every student's attendance and work with parents to overcome problems affecting attendance.
- Provide predictable routines to help students know what to expect to reduce anxiety about going to school.
- Talk with you about involving support staff such as school psychologist, chaplain, mentors, Aboriginal and Islander Education Officer, other relevant staff, and other agencies or organisations to help.
- Talk with you about local services that may also be able to help.