



Absence from School

This policy aims to clarify the expectations the school has of parents and teachers in relation to absences from school.

Regular attendance is expected at all times except under the following circumstances:

Absence due to illness or trauma

Parents have a duty to let the school know if a child is not attending school. A child who is ill or disturbed through family trauma does not participate well and should be kept at home to receive the care needed for recovery. If a child is not well enough to attend classes, there is little likelihood that any great worth will result from 'extra work' being sent home from school.

For many reasons, teachers are concerned if a child is absent from school and no explanation is received. To protect the school and safeguard the well-being of the child, the school should be notified of the child's absence by telephone (5572 1688) or by e-mail (absenteesstv@bne.catholic.edu.au). If no contact is made with the school by 9:30am the school will endeavour to contact parents/carers via text.

When a child returns to class, a note of explanation should be presented to the class teacher.

Family holidays

Family holidays should, wherever possible, be taken during school vacations. If children accompany the rest of the family outside school vacation times, it is impractical to set formal written activities during such a period, and, accordingly, this will not be done. As a general rule, we encourage these children to maintain a journal of their travels. (Teachers therefore will not set work for children during these periods).

Procedures:

In accordance with the requirements of the Education Act, parents who wish to exclude their child/ren from school for more than 10 days must complete an application for exemption from compulsory schooling. The Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 mandates that all absences of longer than 10 days, other than for medical reasons, must be approved by the principal of the school and be of sound educational grounds.
