



Dr Richard Jones
Cyfarwyddwr Addysg
Director of Education

Atebwch os gwelwch yn dda /Please reply to:

Gwasanaeth Addysg / Education Service
Cyngor Sir Powys / Powys County Council
Neuadd y Sir / County Hall
Llandrindod Wells
Powys LD1 5LG

Os yn galw gofynnwch am / If calling please ask for: Education Welfare Service

Ffôn / Tel: 01597 826422

E-bost / Email: educationwelfare@powys.gov.uk

Eich cyf / Your ref:

Ein cyf / Our ref: Letter to Parents & Carers 01.09.26

Dyddiad / Date: 01.09.26

To parents and carers

Dear parent / carer,

Welcome to the new academic year 2026–27: supporting good attendance

As we begin the 2026–27 academic year, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all learners, parents and carers. I hope the year ahead is positive, successful and full of opportunities for every child and young person to learn, develop and thrive.

Good attendance is one of the most important foundations for educational progress, wellbeing and future success. When children attend school regularly, they are more likely to keep up with learning, build strong relationships with staff and friends, take part in wider school life and feel a stronger sense of belonging within their school community.

Every school day matters. Even occasional absence can interrupt learning routines and make it harder for children to maintain confidence and progress. Establishing good attendance habits from the start of the academic year can make a significant difference over time.

Schools, families and the local authority all have an important role in supporting good attendance. Working together, we can help ensure that children and young people feel safe, supported and able to access the education, friendships and wider opportunities they are entitled to.

www.powys.gov.uk

Croeso i chi gysylltu â ni yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb oedi.
You are welcome to contact us in Welsh. We will respond in Welsh, without delay.



Every School Day Matters: A Guide for the 2026–27 Academic Year

Why Attendance Matters

The Foundation for Success



The Foundation for Success

Regular attendance supports educational progress, emotional wellbeing, and future success.

Building a Sense of Belonging



Building a Sense of Belonging

Attending school daily helps children build strong relationships and feel part of their community.

Consistency is Key



Consistency is Key

Even occasional absences can interrupt learning routines and damage a child's confidence.

Support and Partnership

Establish Positive Routines



Establish Positive Routines

Support regular attendance by ensuring children arrive on time and avoiding term-time holidays.

Early Communication is Vital



Early Communication is Vital

Contact the school immediately if barriers like anxiety or illness affect attendance.

A Collaborative Approach



A Collaborative Approach

Families, schools, and the local authority work together to ensure every learner thrives.

We ask parents and carers to support regular attendance by encouraging positive routines, ensuring children arrive on time, avoiding holidays during term time wherever possible, and keeping in close contact with school if any concerns arise. Your support makes a real difference.

95–100% attendance 	 Best chance of success	 Your child is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity.
90–95% attendance 	 At least 2 weeks of learning missed	 Satisfactory. Your child may have to spend time catching up with work.
85–90% attendance 	 At least 4 weeks of learning missed	 Your child may be at risk of underachieving and may need extra support from you to catch up with work. Below 90% you are at risk of prosecution.
80–85% attendance 	 At least 5 ½ weeks of learning missed	 Your child's low attendance has a significant impact on learning. You are at risk of prosecution.
Below 80% attendance 	 At least 7 ½ weeks of learning missed	 Your child is missing out on a broad and balanced education. You are at risk of prosecution.

Thank you for working with schools and the local authority to give every learner the best possible start to the 2026–27 academic year. We look forward to supporting children, young people and families throughout the year ahead.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Richard Jones

Cyfarwyddwr Addysg
Director of Education

www.powys.gov.uk

Croeso i chi gysylltu â ni yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb oedi.
 You are welcome to contact us in Welsh. We will respond in Welsh, without delay.



www.powys.gov.uk

Croeso i chi gysylltu â ni yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb oedi.
You are welcome to contact us in Welsh. We will respond in Welsh, without delay.

