



Attendance Policy

3.1 Children learn best when they are healthy, safe, secure, when their individual needs are met, and when they have positive relationships with the adults caring for them. (EYFS 2024)

At ABC we strive to create positive relationships between staff, parents and children, and provide a safe and happy environment where children feel comfortable. Attendance forms an important part of this. Children need to attend nursery regularly in order to feel secure, happy and safe, and to build the relationships with their key worker and other adults.

We would all like our children to:

- Be happy and confident
- Develop independence
- Make friends with other children
- Be able to talk and listen, enjoy stories and start to read simple words
- Begin to investigate the world through exciting curriculum and learning opportunities
- Develop physically through movement and improved coordination,
- Gain confidence in what they can do, be healthy and active
- Be creative through visual art, music, dance, role-play and imaginative play, and start making connections between one kind of learning and another.

Attending a nursery gives your child a valuable introduction to school. It gives children the opportunity to develop their skills and mix with others of their own age. The relaxed atmosphere allows children to develop at their own pace.

Children are not of statutory school age until the term after their fifth birthday. However, establishing regular routines for your children at an early age is extremely important. It will benefit both you and your children as they progress through their school life, and limit the chances of poor attendance, which will have a negative effect on their enjoyment and achievement.

We appreciate that sometimes your child may be unwell, or have medical appointments. If your child is unable to attend our setting for their session time, we would ask that you inform the setting as soon as possible by message, phone call or email. This must be done by 9:30am on the first day of absence and each subsequent day. Notice of holidays must be given in advance.



If we do not have an explanation of absence, we will endeavour to contact you that day. If we fail to make contact, within 48 hours, by phone or email, this may result in ABC contacting Cheshire East Children's Services.

Absence is either authorised, such as in the case of illness, medical appointments, holidays, family emergencies or of religious/cultural observance, or unauthorised, when there is no reason given for such absence or when it is considered that the explanation is unjustified or unreasonable.

Sometimes children can be upset and want to stay at home with parents, if this is the case, we ask that you bring the child to nursery, and speak to their keyworker or the manager. It may make things more difficult in the future if you allow them to stay at home.

Monitoring of these records will take place regularly and letters and/or meetings will be sent/arranged by the setting, including a referral to the Children Services, where necessary.

If absence is a persistent problem (15% or more) a meeting will be arranged at the setting with the parent and Manager.

Lateness

In pre-school we are trying to get children ready for school, so it is essential for your child to attend on time. Our preschool sessions run from 9am to 3pm. It is necessary for children to be punctual when arriving for a pre-school session. When children arrive late this can disturb the routine of all of the children and your child may miss out on learning and certain aspects of our well planned curriculum.