

# Joyful, Intentional, Life-Changing: The Power of Pre-Kindergarten!

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Part of what is **INTENTIONAL** about KC Ready 4s is that we are working on establishing habits that increase children's chances of lifetime success. Regardless of whether your family is receiving tuition support we want to see your children in school on a regular basis! Children should be in class 5 days/week unless they are sick, the family has a planned vacation, or there is a family emergency. Families who plan longer vacations (more than a week) or who have extended periods of absences may find that their children's pre-K experience is negatively impacted. If your family is receiving tuition support, we give generous consideration for situations out of a family's control but the overall expectation is that children attend a minimum of 3 hours/day, 5 days/week for 33 weeks in order to receive the full funding for which the family is eligible and approved. Families who are not receiving tuition support from KC Ready 4s are encouraged to also use this as their guideline in order for their children to get the most of their high-quality pre-k experience!

[Click here for good articles from GetSchooled.com](https://getschooled.com/dashboard?q=attendance)

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## Facts About School Attendance

From <https://getschooled.com/dashboard/article/1939-facts-about-school-attendance>

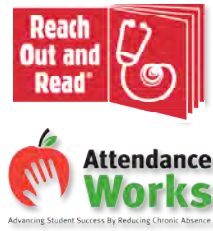
Attending school might not be a big deal for you now, but the consequences can have a lasting impact on you. Check out the attendance facts from our friends at [Attendance Works](#).

- Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. Half the students who miss 2-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school.
- An estimated 5 million to 7.5 million U.S. students miss nearly a month of school each year.
- Research shows that missing 10 percent of the school, or about 18 days in most school districts, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just two days a month and that's known as chronic absence.
- When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating
- Attendance improves when schools engage students and parents in positive ways and when schools provide mentors for chronically absent students.

Click over to [Attendance Works](#) for more great info!

<http://www.attendanceworks.org/facts-stats-school-attendance/>

**SEE OTHER SIDE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE  
IMPORTANCE OF GOOD ATTENDANCE HABITS!**



## Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

### DID YOU KNOW?

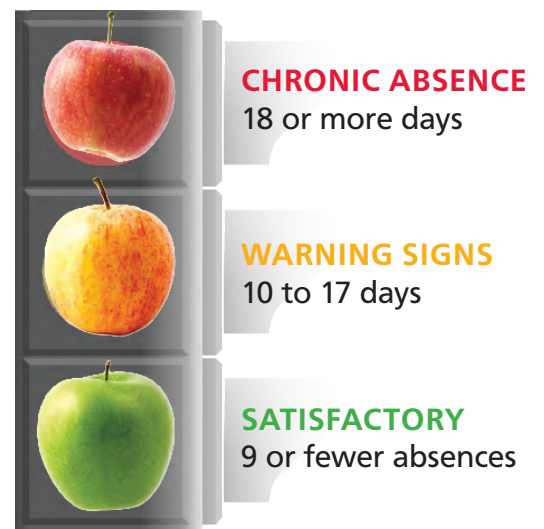
- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

**Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.**

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

### When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

For more on school readiness, visit [attendanceworks.org](http://attendanceworks.org) and [reachoutandread.org](http://reachoutandread.org)