Sometimes students don’t want to go to school because of:

- Homework
- Bullying
- Problems with their friends
- Wanting to be with family
- Being too tired

Who can I talk to if I have a problem attending school?

Talk to someone at school who will listen and understand, such as your teacher, nurse, welfare officer or assistant principal.

For more information schools can contact their DE&T regional office.


IT’S NOT OK TO BE AWAY

Attendance Information for Primary School Students

Why you need to be at school
What you need to do...

- Attend school every day
- Be on time to school
- Bring a note for your teacher if you are late to school or if you have to leave for any reason
- Make sure that your parent or caregiver lets the school know when you will be away
- Bring a note to explain why you were away when you come back to school.

Teachers at school will:
- Mark rolls everyday
- Ask for notes if you have been absent
- Check on your wellbeing if you are away from school a lot
- Inform family/caregiver when you are absent

Tips for keeping on track

- **Take attendance seriously**
  When you come to school regularly and get to class on time you are able to do better and will be happier at school.

- **Attend regularly**
  Have you ever gone into a class and felt strange because you can’t figure out what’s going on? Maybe it is because you missed something important the day before and now it feels like you have lost the plot.

- **Tell the school and teacher if you are away**
  If you are away make sure that your parents or caregivers let the school and teachers know.

- **Catch up with your teachers**
  If you have been away from school make sure you see your teachers to find out about the work that you missed and if you have any homework to catch up on.

- **Be smart**
  Use a diary or the family calendar to write down important days like curriculum days, sport events, excursions and when your homework is due. Ask your parent or caregiver to make sure that shopping trips, doctor and dentist appointments are not set in school time.

- **Develop social skills and friendship groups**
  School is a great place to make friends. You can learn how to work as a member of a team.

- **Become work ready**
  Understand that school helps you become work ready. Attending school regularly and on time prepares you better for working life.