



190 Cook Street, Barrie, L4M 4H5.

(705) 722-0397

[www.sevenoaksacademy.ca](http://www.sevenoaksacademy.ca)

## **Attendance Policy**

Students of compulsory school age shall attend school in accordance with the Education Act, Section 21(1). Every child must attend school from the first day in September after their sixth birthday until the last school day in June in the calendar year in which they become eighteen or until their eighteenth birthday, whichever comes first.

An attendance policy has been developed to provide direction to families related to compulsory school attendance. School attendance is an issue that concerns everyone in a child's education. The attendance rate directly affects the quality of the school climate, the delivery of instruction, the relationship between members of the school and community, and the overall success of every student. Absenteeism continues to have a direct, negative effect on student achievement, promotion, graduation and self-esteem.

Early identification of school attendance issues is critical to a child's progress. Teachers at Sevenoaks Academy keep track of attendance and lateness, and must include that information on a student's report card.

The principal of Sevenoaks will be in touch with the parent/guardian of a student if:

- absence is frequent, prolonged or unexplained;
- absence begins to show a pattern;
- absence begins to effect progress;
- attempts by school personnel to improve irregular attendance have not achieved the desired results;

Documentation will be sent to the parent/guardian that identifies the number of absences; and/or states expectations; and/or invites solutions and/or plans for meetings.