

Parent Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

1. What is considered an excused absence?

- This type of absence is issued for personal illness, illness in the immediate family, death in the family, medical appointments, school activities and hardships. Students are to make up work missed due to an excused absence and will be given credit for that work. Students must bring a note upon their return to school requesting that their absence be excused.

2. What is an unverified absence?

- This type of absence is issued when no indication has been received by school personnel that the student's parent/guardian is aware of and supports the absence.

3. What is an unexcused absence?

- This type of absence is issued for truancy, for failure to bring an acceptable note from home and other reasons considered invalid. Students are to make up work missed due to an unexcused absence and will be given credit for acceptable work.

4. What should I do if my child is absent from school?

- Call your child's school to report absence before the start of school.
- Submit documentation for the absence upon return to school (i.e. doctor's note, parent note, court summons, etc).

5. If I do not agree with the absence record for my child, what should I do?

- Please contact your child's attendance office located at the school and inquire.

6. I have enrolled my child in another school. What are the steps for informing/transferring?

- Contact the school in which your child is currently enrolled and request that they send verification to the previous school OR contact the previous school and provide the name and location of the new school so that verification can be obtained. Without this written verification, the school cannot change the enrollment status of your child and the absences are still recorded as unexcused.

7. What if I am planning to homeschool my child?

- Applications for homeschooling can be found on the district website or you can contact the Homeschool Office located at John J. Wright Cultural Center at 540-582-7583 ext. 5508. Please be aware that there are policies and procedures impacting eligibility and approval of homeschooling based on the Code of Virginia.

8. Am I responsible when my child skips class, leaves the school campus, or refuses to attend school?

- Yes. The Code of Virginia requires all students between the ages of 6 and 18 to attend school every day on time all day unless they meet the requirement for an excused absence. However, please contact your child's school for assistance in developing a plan to help your child.