

St. Nicholas School  
Attendance Policy  
Effective: September 8, 2025

**Our guidelines have changed so please read the document carefully.**

Regular school attendance is essential for student success. At St. Nicholas School, we are committed to fostering a culture of responsibility and academic excellence. This policy outlines the guidelines for excused and unexcused absences to ensure consistency and accountability for all students and families. Our guidelines have changed so please read the document carefully.

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## **Attendance Policy:**

### **1. Parent-Excused Absences**

- Parents/guardians may excuse up to **7 absences** per school year without documentation from a medical professional.
- These absences may be for illness, family emergencies, religious observances, or other personal reasons as determined by the parent.

### **2. Absences Beyond Seven (7)**

- **Any absence beyond the seven parent-excused days** will be considered **unexcused** unless accompanied by a **doctor's note** or official documentation (e.g., court appearances, funeral notice, etc.).

### **3. Unexcused Absences**

- Unexcused absences may result in the following consequences:
  - Notification to parents/guardians.
  - Requirement to meet with school administration.
  - Possible impact on academic standing, participation in extracurricular activities, or promotion eligibility (based on school policy).
  - Referral to Mahoning County Juvenile Justice Center.
  - Loss of Ed Choice Scholarship

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**4. Documentation Requirements**

- Doctor's notes or official documentation must be submitted to the school **within three (3) school days** of the student's return.
- Notes must clearly state the date(s) the student was unable to attend and the reason.

**5. Tardiness and Early Dismissal**

- Excessive tardiness and early dismissals may also be addressed under this policy if they impact a student's learning or attendance record.

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**Communication & Record-Keeping:**

- Parents/guardians are expected to notify the school by phone or email **each day** a student is absent.
  - The school will maintain accurate attendance records and inform parents when students approach or exceed their seven excused absences.
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## **ATTENDANCE DOES MATTER!**

**Being absent 1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem like much but...**

<b>If your child misses...</b>	<b>That equals...</b>	<b>Which is...</b>	<b>And over 13 years of schooling that's...</b>
<b>1 day every 2 weeks</b>	<b>20 days per year</b>	<b>4 weeks per year</b>	<b>Nearly 1 ½ years</b>
<b>1 day per week</b>	<b>40 days per year</b>	<b>8 weeks per year</b>	<b>Over 2 ½ years of school</b>
<b>2 days per week</b>	<b>80 days per year</b>	<b>16 weeks per year</b>	<b>Over 5 years</b>
<b>3 days per week</b>	<b>120 days per year</b>	<b>24 weeks per year</b>	<b>Nearly 8 years</b>

## **How does being tardy affect learning?**

<b>He/She is only missing just...</b>	<b>That equals...</b>	<b>Which is...</b>	<b>And over 13 years of schooling that's...</b>
<b>10 minutes per day</b>	<b>50 minutes per week</b>	<b>Nearly 1 ½ weeks per year</b>	<b>Nearly ½ year</b>
<b>20 minutes per day</b>	<b>1 hr. 40 min. per week</b>	<b>Over 2 ½ weeks per year</b>	<b>Nearly 1 year</b>
<b>30 minutes per day</b>	<b>Half a day per week</b>	<b>4 weeks per year</b>	<b>Nearly 1 ½ years</b>
<b>1 hour per day</b>	<b>1 day per week</b>	<b>8 weeks per year</b>	<b>Over 2 ½ years</b>

## **EVERYDAY COUNTS**

**If you want your child to be successful at school then, YES, attendance does matter!**