

## Attendance Assembly.

1. Slide 1 – On screen before talk begins.
2. Slide 2 - Can you think of a time when you missed out on eating an extra slice of chocolate cake because you didn't get to the kitchen quickly enough after someone offered it to you?
3. Slide 3 - And that cake by the way would have looked something like this. Very tasty!
4. Slide 4 - Or maybe you've missed an opportunity to buy a fab pair of trainers – the ones you'd always wanted - at a fantastic price in a sale. Because by the time you'd counted your birthday money to see if you had enough, the last pair had been sold. What a disappointment.
5. Slide 5 - And I'm sure that we've all, at one time or another, felt angry with our carers or parents because they've stopped us from going somewhere with our friends. Feeling that we've missed out on an opportunity isn't great, is it?
6. Slide 6 - The one good thing that these 3 experiences have in common, is that in each case, we've only lost out TEMPORARILY. There will be another chocolate cake for us to have an extra slice of at some point. Another pair of trainers will come on sale, and another opportunity to be with friends will come.
7. Slide 7 - But if you miss a day of school, that loss - believe it or not - will affect your education forever. Seriously. Take a look at this.
8. Slide 8 – Play video.
9. Slide 9 - The most recent information we have suggests that missing 17 days of Secondary school in a year could result in a pupil getting a lower grade – in more than one GCSE subject - than they might have achieved if they'd been present at school more often.
10. Slide 10 - But as the video we have just seen showed, attendance and punctuality isn't just important in a school setting. It's also important in the working world. Imagine if a doctor who could save a life said to themselves "I don't fancy work today. I think I'll take a day off". What

kind of effect could that have? By coming to school on time today, we're starting to develop habits that our employers will demand of us. The person who will employ you is looking for a person who's going to be present, on time every day - a person who's reliable. Today, at school, you're starting your journey of gathering the skills you'll need throughout the rest of your life.

11. Slide 11 – Carmarthenshire's Secondary school attendance was **93.5%** and Primary pupils' attendance was **94%** before covid.

Secondary school attendance dropped to **83%** and Primary pupils' attendance averaged **89.5%** after the pandemic.  
Year 11's average attendance in 2021-22 was **73%**.

12. Slide 12 - If you feel that your attendance could be better, what can you do to help yourself? How about setting yourself a goal? You could first start to try and be on time every morning for a week... then for a month and then two months... If you must miss school for some important reason, make sure you catch up with any work you've missed. And if you feel like you're part of school life, you're more likely to want to be in school, so why not join different clubs or try new activities which will build the feeling of belonging to school and your desire to be there?

13. Slide 13 - And if you need help, speak to a member of staff. Together you may be able to identify the reasons why you are late or absent and find solutions. The County Council is also ready to support you and your parents in various ways.

14. Slide 14 - Even if you have 99 pence, you can't make a pound unless you get one more penny. So, if even one penny is missing it affects the other 99. The same goes for your school days. So, if you're wondering what's the harm in missing the odd one now and again, well, together they add up.

15. Slide 15 - Give yourself the best chance to succeed. Try, all of you to be present at school, every day, on time.