

# truancy



LOOK OUT FOR

## Missing too much school is a bad idea because:

- You'll fall behind in important lessons.
- You'll miss out on being with your friends every day.
- It can be hard to catch up with what everyone else has learnt.
- You might not learn enough information to pass exams.
- Employers look for good attendance.



WHAT NEXT

## Here's what happens if you miss too much school:

- Your teacher will want to talk to you about why you are absent.
- Your school will want to talk to your parents/carers.
- You and your parents may need to meet with your local Education Welfare Service or an Attendance Improvement Officer.

## Worried about a friend/sibling?:

- Try and persuade them to talk to someone about why they are doing this.
- Don't be pressured by your friend or sibling to truant or bunk off.



CONTACTS

- Connexions Direct  
080 800 13 2 19  
[www.connexions-direct.com](http://www.connexions-direct.com)
- [www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk)

- [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk)
- [www.channelmogo.org](http://www.channelmogo.org) go to 'Need some advice'

*"The more lessons I missed, the harder it was for me to catch up. In the end, I just stopped going to school altogether, and now I really wish I hadn't."*

Everyone has days when they don't want to go to school. But if you decide not to go to lessons when you should, this is called truanting. Even missing one lesson can make a difference to you and it is still truanting.

It is a legal requirement for your parents/carers to make sure you go to school. Your parents/carers may have to go to court and may even be sent to prison if you do not attend regularly. You may officially leave school on the last Friday in June in the academic year that you are 16.

People miss school for lots of different reasons. Maybe you're not doing well enough in lessons, you're being bullied or haven't done your homework. Perhaps you feel bored, you don't get on with your teachers or your friends are truanting too. It's important to understand why before it's too late.

People who miss lessons lose out on opportunities and may regret it.

