

What is a justified reason for my child to be away from school?

Short term illness or for medical / dental reasons.

(The school may ask for a medical certificate to explain an extended absence or illness.)

Bereavement Leave.

When special permission has been granted by the Principal.

When the school is closed for any reason.



Can I take my child out of school for a special occasion such as their birthday?

No, the law requires your child to be at school every day that school is open including on their birthday.

Other unjustified reasons for your child to be away include the following

Family holidays or extended weekends.

To look after siblings or other family members.

To visit friends or family / whanau.

To avoid school activities such as sports days.

Going shopping.

Because they have no lunch *(In this instance talk to your child's school, most schools have ways of helping out families with school lunches.)*

Value your child's education. Children spend approximately 15% of their time at school. To get the most out of their education they need to be on time and attending school EVERY day.
