



# ATTENDANCE TIPS FOR FAMILIES

## of Elementary School Students

### ● Did You Know...

- School attendance plays a major part in your child's academic success.
- Too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school and makes it harder to learn how to read.
- Building good habits in prekindergarten/elementary school helps children learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

### ● What You Can Do To Help

- Ensure that all school-age children in your care are in school and on time daily.
- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine
- Lay out clothes and pack lunches and backpacks the night before.
- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments or extended trips during school days.
- Make back-up plans for getting your child to school if something comes up.

### ● How to Communicate with the School

- First, read the Prince George's County Public Schools Attendance Policy.
- Talk to teachers if you notice sudden changes in behavior. Make sure teachers and school staff have your up-to-date contact information.
- Ask for help from school officials, afterschool programs, other parents or community agencies if you're having trouble getting your child to school.

Adapted from Attendance Works

