



F O R E S T H I L L
C O L L E G E

ATTENDANCE: IT'S NOT OK TO BE AWAY!

A considerable number of students across Australia and at Forest Hill College are having their opportunities to perform to their potential adversely affected by parent - condoned absences.

Once it was the case, that students only missed school when they were genuinely ill, but now that has changed. Students are being allowed to stay away from school for an ever increasing number of excuses including:

- A day off for their birthday
- A day because relatives are visiting
- A day off to be with parents at home
- A day off to look after younger brothers and sisters
- A day off to go shopping

The thought of an argument with children to get them to school often is too great to bear for some parents. Every day a student is away, they are losing a learning experience. Over time, their knowledge base will be full of holes like Swiss cheese. Learning is sequential and attending three out of four lessons leaves gaping holes.

A sobering fact is that in Australia today, the average student will lose one year of education (200 days) through parent condoned absences over their school career from Prep to Year 12.

After love and care the most important thing that we as parents can give our kids is an education. Let's do it.

Should you require support in saying **NO** to your son/daughter on their attendance or any other issue please contact us immediately.

We all can work together to make a difference to your student's future.

Be on time, be at school, that's the rule!