

Young people who are not in school are more likely to become involved in:

Developing self-destructive and antisocial habits

Drug and/or alcohol use

Hanging out with older, irresponsible people

Sexual promiscuity

Illegal activities



Always maintain hope. Every child can succeed in school.

Schools Train Young People for Future Success by Teaching:

- Responsibility
- Accountability
- Time management
- Social skills
- Academic & vocational skills
- Lifelong learning skills
- Commitment to stay in school

Teachers can be healthy models and mentors for young people.



Call your child's school for help!

- or -

U. S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
<http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/> and
<https://conference.aspensys.com/truancy/resources.html>

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Inventory #PI:PA-TRNT 12/2008

When Your Child is Truant

We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope.

Rev. Martin Luther King
Civil Rights Activist



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Providing hope and help to young people and their families through counseling, education and community outreach



Warning Signs

- * Increased complaints about school.
- * Attempts to stay home due to headache, upset stomach, depression, phantom illnesses, etc.
- * Evidence of drug involvement.
- * Decline in grades.
- * Calls from school that your child is chronically tardy or absent.
- * Your child thinks skipping school is normal.
- * Dramatic change in language, attitude, or sleeping or eating habits.
- * Ridicule of family rules.



~~ Prevention ~~

Ask yourself:

Am I denying that there are school problems? Denial blinds you to issues that can be solved early with help from your child's school.

Is my child successful in school? Discouragement is a big factor in truancy. Your child may need testing and special help.

Is my child afraid to go to school? Notify the school & ask for an end to bullying.

Is my child creating another life for him - or herself on the Internet? Know what your child is doing online.

Is my child maintaining good sleep habits? Make sure he/she does so as to be on time and alert in school.

Does my child know that I will not write excuses for skipped days?
Make it clear!

Healthy Responses to Truancy

Take action. Do not get caught in silent shame.

Hold your child responsible for his or her own actions.

Do not waste time on regrets. Direct your energy to dealing effectively with your child **now**.

Work with the school. The world is not out to get your child. School professionals want to be **your ally**.



Reach out - you are not alone.
You'll need support to succeed!

Truancy ... is the first sign of trouble; the first indicator that a young person has given up and is losing his or her way.

U. S. Dept. of Education