



School absenteeism

Every child has the right to education. This is regulated in the Compulsory Education Act. This states that a student from the age of 5 may not stay at home or travel during school hours without a valid reason. Not going to school when you have to, is called school absenteeism. In special cases, absenteeism is allowed, but usually not.

Is your child not going to school without a valid reason?

If your child does not attend school without a valid reason, the school will contact you. The school then wants to know what is going on. A compulsory education officer can also contact you. If you or your child need help, you can discuss this with the school or the attendance officer.

Is there no valid reason not to go to school? Then you can be fined. Pupils from the age of 12 can also be punished themselves.

Only in special situations does a student not have to go to school

A special situation is, for example:

- disease
- suspension
- celebration of a religious holiday
- when your 5-year-old child can't go to school every day yet

Leave can be given for:

- move
 - marriage of family up to and including the 3^e degree*
 - wedding anniversary 12^{1/2}, 25, 40, 50 and 60 years of parents, guardians or grandparents
 - work anniversary 25, 40 or 50 years of parent, caregiver or grandparent
 - life-threatening illness from family up to and including 3^e degree with no prospect of recovery
 - death of family up to and including 4^e degree
 - comply with a legal obligation if this is not possible outside of class hours
 - holidays outside school holidays due to parental occupation (only applies in specific situations)
- * 1^e degree: parents and guardians 2^e grade: brother, sister and grandparent 3^e degree: uncle, aunt, great-grandparent, child of brother or sister 4^e degree: child or grandchild of uncle or aunt, great-uncle, great-aunt and great-great-grandparent

Report and request approval

You must always report the absence of your child in the event of illness or a religious holiday to the school.

For leave, you must request written approval from the school in advance.

The school may request proof of this.

The school can also indicate how long the leave may last.

Are you applying for more than 10 days of leave in a school year? In that case, the prior approval of the attendance officer is required.

Pay attention: Students do not get leave for family visits or a trip around the world. Parents' work schedule or cheaper airline tickets are also not valid reasons to miss classes.

More information

If you would like more information, please contact your child's school or see the school guide. Or contact the attendance officer of your municipality, see below.

Municipality of Delft, Compulsory Education Department

Telephone: 14015

E-mail: leerlingenzaken@delft.nl

Website: www.delft.nl/onderwijs-en-studeren/leergedrag

Municipality of The Hague, Department of Pupil and Education Affairs

Telephone: (070) 353 54 54

E-mail: leerlingzaken@denhaag.nl

Website: www.denhaag.nl/nl/in-de-stad/onderwijs-en-studeren/de-leerplichtwet.htm

Municipality of Leidschendam-Voorburg-Wassenaar, Compulsory Education Department

Telephone: (070) 300 83 33

E-mail: leerplicht@lv.nl

Website: www.lv.nl/leerplicht

Municipality of Midden-Delfland, Education Department

Telephone: (015) 380 41 17

E-mail: onderwijs@middendelfland.nl

Website: www.middendelfland.nl/leerplicht-bijzonder-verlof-of-vrijstelling

Municipality of Pijnacker-Nootdorp, Youth team Education and Work

Telephone: (015) 362 62 62 and 14 015

E-mail: leerplicht@pijnacker-nootdorp.nl

Website: www.pijnacker-nootdorp.nl/direct-regelen/onderwijs/leergedrag/16882

Municipality of Rijswijk, Task Youth, Education & Community Schools

Telephone: (070) 326 11 24, (070) 326 11 58 and (070) 326 10 62

E-mail: leerplicht@rijswijk.nl

Website: www.rijswijk.nl/inwoners/leven/onderwijs/leergedrag

Municipality of Westland, Compulsory Education Department

Telephone: 140 174

E-mail: leerplicht@gemeentewestland.nl

Website: <https://www.gemeentewestland.nl/jeugd-en-onderwijs/leerschrijven-en-voortijdig-schoolverlaten.html>

Municipality of Zoetermeer, Policy/Pupil Affairs department

Telephone: (079) 346 91 74

E-mail: meldingenleerplicht@zoetermeer.nl

Website: <https://www.zoetermeer.nl/leerplicht-bijzonder-verlof-of-vrijstelling>