

Excellere College Student Attendance & Engagement Plan 2026

At Excellere College, we believe that every day counts. High attendance is directly linked to student wellbeing, social connection, and academic success. This plan outlines how we partner with families to ensure every student has the opportunity to thrive. At Excellere College, we believe that each student is uniquely created by God with a specific purpose and a set of gifts to share with the world. Our commitment to attendance is rooted in the biblical principle of **stewardship**—honoring the time and opportunities we have been given to grow in wisdom and character.

Walking Together in Faith and Learning

We see the school as a "body" where every member is vital. As it says in **1 Corinthians 12:27**, *"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."* When a student is absent, our community is incomplete, and their unique voice is missed.

Our Attendance Plan is designed to:

- **Nurture Potential:** Providing a consistent environment where students can discover their God-given talents.
- **Build Community:** Encouraging students to "spur one another on toward love and good deeds" (**Hebrews 10:24**) through daily fellowship.
- **Offer Grace:** Supporting those facing seasons of illness or difficulty with the same compassion and restoration shown to us.

We partner with parents to ensure our children walk a path of diligence and hope, preparing them to serve both God and their community with excellence.

1. Our Commitment to Attendance

Our goal is for every student to maintain an attendance rate of **90% or higher**. We understand that life happens, but consistent patterns of absence can create gaps in learning and social development that are difficult to close.

The "Every Day Counts" Framework:

- **Regular Attendance (90–100%):** Students are on track for success.
- **At-Risk (80–89%):** Occasional absences are starting to impact learning.
- **Critical Concern (Below 80%):** Significant intervention is required to re-engage the student.

2. Support for Illness and Medical Conditions

We prioritize the health of our community. If your child is unwell, they should stay home to recover.

- **Online Learning Support:** For students facing short-term or chronic illness, we provide access to work via our digital platforms. This ensures they remain connected to their classroom progress without the pressure of physical attendance.
- **Medical Evidence:** For absences exceeding three consecutive days, a medical certificate may be requested to help us better understand how to support your child's return to school.

3. Pathways for Reluctant Learners

We recognize that some students find coming to school challenging due to anxiety, sensory needs, or disengagement. We do not expect families to navigate this alone.

When a student becomes a "reluctant learner," we activate a tiered support system:

1. **School-Based Mentoring:** Meeting with Deans or Learning Support Coordinators to identify barriers.
2. **External Agency Partnership:** We work closely with the **Northern Health School** and the **Attendance Service** to provide transition support or off-site learning pathways where appropriate.
3. **Individual Engagement Plans:** Tailored schedules that might include phased returns, reduced hours, or specialized interest-based learning.

4. Responsibilities: A Three-Way Partnership

The School Will...	The Family Will...	The Student Will...
Notify parents of any unexplained absence by 10:00 AM.	Notify the office of any absence before 8:30 AM via the app, email or phone.	Arrive at class on time and ready to engage.
Provide engaging, high-quality learning environments.	Plan family holidays during official school term breaks.	Communicate with teachers if they are feeling overwhelmed.

Initiate support meetings when attendance falls below 90%.	Work collaboratively with the school when barriers to attendance arise.	Access online work if homebound due to illness.
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5. Taking Action Together

If attendance becomes a concern, the school will reach out to schedule an **Attendance Support Meeting**. The focus of this meeting is never punitive; it is a collaborative session to solve problems, remove barriers, and create a roadmap back to full-time education.

"He waka eke noa — We are all in this boat together." > We are committed to working with you to ensure your child feels safe, valued, and motivated to be at Excellere College every day.