



# SADDLEWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Quality Relationships-Diversity-Achievement-Security-Enjoyment*

7 Saddle Rd  
SADDLEWORTH SA 5413

Telephone (08) 88474 227

Fax (08) 88474 003

Principal: Joyce Dinan

Email: [Joyce.Dinan780@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Joyce.Dinan780@schools.sa.edu.au)

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

Re: Attendance

One of our continuing priorities is to address issues of attendance among students. It has come to my attention that our records for Term 2, 2018 indicate that your child \_\_\_\_\_ has been absent on \_\_\_ days and/or late on \_\_\_ days or has had \_\_\_\_\_ early departures.

We understand that this may be due to unavoidable reasons, including illness or family holidays which cannot be taken at other times of the year. However, research shows that students who are absent for more than 10 days per school year are disadvantaged both academically and socially.

Students who are absent are at risk of compromising educational opportunity. It is our intention that students do not have gaps in their knowledge and understanding through being absent when new learning is introduced, and when concepts and skills are reinforced. These students are at increased risk of feeling less secure in the school environment and at greater risk of not completing their schooling.

Student social development is a critical part of schooling as students learn to establish and maintain friendships. When students miss school they lose opportunities to connect with their peers, which can result in social isolation and insecurity. Loss of self-esteem and self-confidence typically follow.

We appreciate that when students are absent, it sends a message that punctuality and life skills are not important. If there are difficulties surrounding your child coming to school, please call us to make a time to discuss these issues. Please be reminded that Support Services are also available to assist with challenges.

Kind Regards

Joyce Dinan  
Principal



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education