

**Good school attendance  
contributes to a child's  
well-being at school and  
a positive self-image**



# Attendance is important!



**Gerðaskóli  
Sandgerðisskóli  
Stóru-Vogaskóli**

## Response to insufficient school attendance



Suðurnesjabær



Sveitafélagið Vogar

Farsældar- og skólaforðunarteymi  
Suðurnesjabæjar

[www.sudurnesjabaer.is](http://www.sudurnesjabaer.is)

## What can be done at home?

- Quality time with family
- Good communication
- Morning and evening routines
- Adequate sleep
- Good nutrition
- Screen time rules
- Homework/reading
- Organization
- Cooperation with school
- Leisure time/hobbies
- Visual schedule
- Reward system

## What is school avoidance?

School refusal is a conscious or unconscious behavior that a child or teenager shows when it comes to attending school. Difficulties can arise, whether it is avoiding a full school day or part of a day, for a longer or shorter period of time.

**The main reasons for school attendance problems can be emotional difficulties, avoiding social situations, separation anxiety or seeking rewards that are present at home, for example video games, television or being with friends.**

In the elementary schools a plan for attendance is laid out to support the successful education of students. The steps here to the side are used to strengthen the student and his environment to prevent further problems.



## The 4 steps

Response to insufficient school attendance

### **Absence for 5 to 9 days**

A conversation with the student and a call with the guardian. The goal is to find the reason for the absences and if there is a reasonable explanation or a suspicion of a school avoidance problem.

### **Absence for 10 to 15 days**

A meeting is called at the school and a team formed around the student. Coordinator of prosperity (tengiliður farsældar) is contacted.

### **Absence for 16 to 29 days**

The case is referred to Student protection counsel and the School avoidance team gets involved.

### **Absence for 30+ days**

If the matter reaches this point, a report is filed to Child protective services. The team continues to work with the student and guardians.