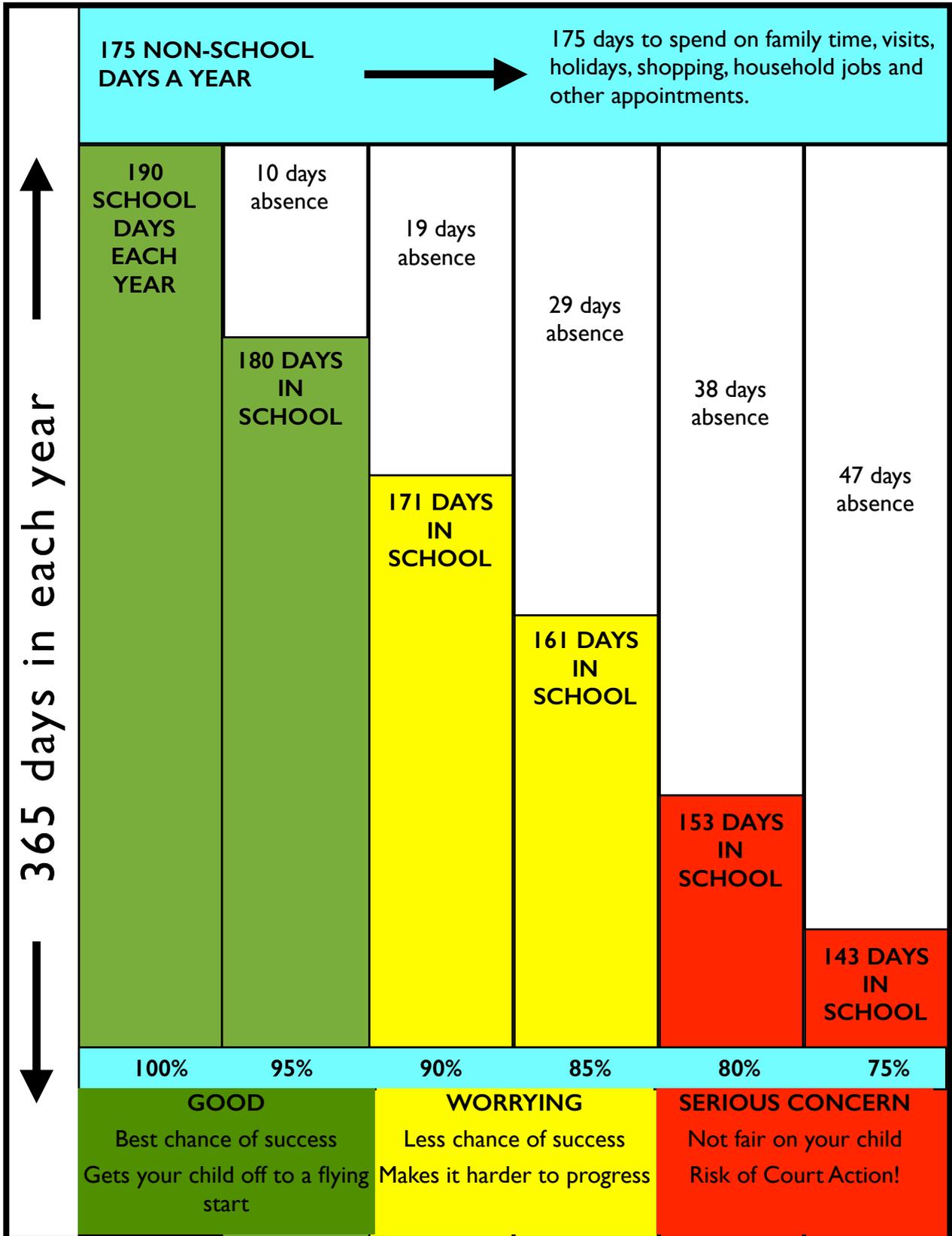


EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS
Days off school add up to lost learning



Please don't let your child miss out on the education they deserve.

New Government Legislation on Absence

In August 2013 the government brought out new rules regarding schools and headteachers being allowed to grant term-time leave for pupils to be out of school.

It is now only in exceptional circumstances that this can be granted, and I felt it would be helpful to share this poster with you about the scale of impact that time out of school can have, and to outline the types of reasons which schools in the Banbury Partnership feel might be appropriate for parents or carers of a child to request leave of absence from school during term-time.

Examples would include:

- Where it may be a unique / last opportunity to spend time with a relative.
- Where a holiday is recommended as part of a parent or child's rehabilitation from a medical or emotional issue. Evidence must be provided, from qualified professionals, such as a doctor.
- Service personnel returning from/scheduled to embark upon a tour of duty abroad
- Where it is company / organisational policy for an employee to take leave at a specified time in the year and there is no opportunity for a family holiday in school holidays. This must be supported by documentary evidence from the organisation.

Factors which would affect the granting of such absence would include:

- The child's existing and previous pattern of attendance.
- The leave must not have been booked already.
- The leave might not be granted in certain year groups or at certain times of the year.

I do hope that you will do everything possible to support us in maintaining high levels of attendance for children across the school, and trust that taking an approach like this across the Partnership of schools in the Banbury area will help those of you who have children attending other schools too.

Sean O'Sullivan
Headteacher

