

Introduction

Welcome to Every Day Matters. This is a termly report that highlights attendance patterns in your school and provides actionable insights to improve student attendance.

Four **Student Attendance Categories** have been developed to help schools understand how frequently each student attends. These categories give you a way to monitor the progress you are making in supporting students to attend regularly.

	Student Categories	Student with	Equivalent to
	Regular attendance	over 90% attendance	missing fewer than 5 days across a term
	Irregular absence	more than 80% and up to 90% attendance	absent for between 5 and 9 days across a term
	Moderate absence	more than 70% and up to 80% attendance	absent for between 10 and 14.5 days across a term
	Chronic absence	70% attendance or less	absent for 15 days or more across a school term

This report provides a snapshot of how your school is performing, including an overview of the reasons for absence broken down by justified and unjustified reasons, insightful trends and next steps.

In April 2024, the Government announced a regular attendance target of 80 percent of students to be present for more than 90% of the term by 2030.

NOTE: In some cases, results have been rounded to the nearest percentage point to simplify the presentation of results. As a result, some totals may not add up to 100%.

Term 1 Summary

How many students regularly attended school this term?

 **Regular Attendance**

55%

Compared to 57% in Term 1, 2024

 **Irregular Absence 32%**

Compared to 29% in Term 1, 2024






 **Moderate Absence 8%**

Compared to 8% in Term 1, 2024

 **Chronic Absence 4%**

Compared to 6% in Term 1, 2024

What were the main reasons given for absence this term?

-  (M) Illness / Medical Absence 46%
-  (J) Explained and Approved 25%
-  (E) Accepted (but unjustified) 13%
-  (G) Holiday 10%
-  (?) Unknown (Temporary) 5%

How many students were on time to class?

49% of students were on time to class

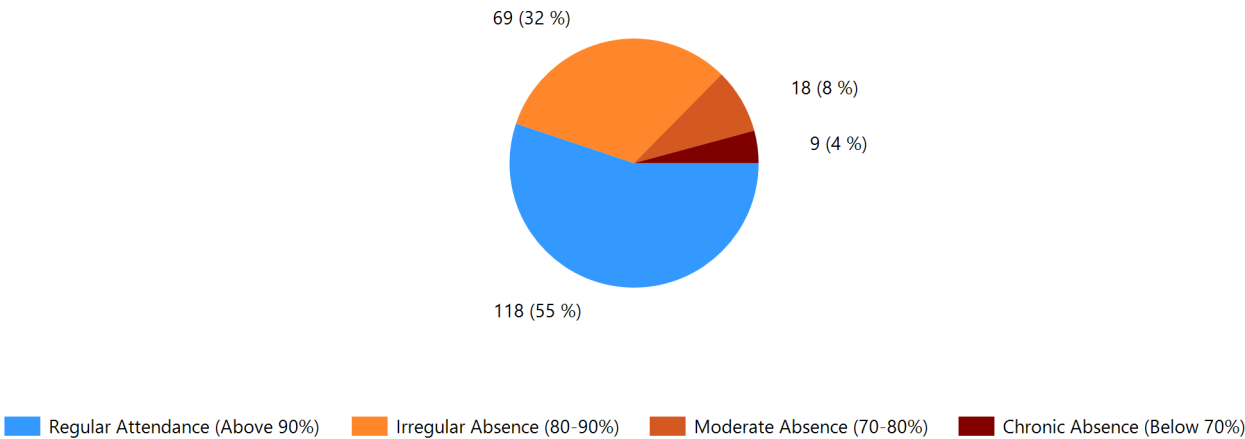
Definition of lateness depends on school attendance policy.

Which days and weeks had the highest and lowest attendance in Term 1, 2025?

	Highest		Lowest	
Day(s) of Week	Tuesday	92%	Friday	78%
Day(s) of the term	25/03/2025	94%	13/03/2025; 14/03/2025	0%
Week(s) of the term	Week 9, 24/03/2025	92%	Week 7, 10/03/2025	52%

Term 1 Detailed View

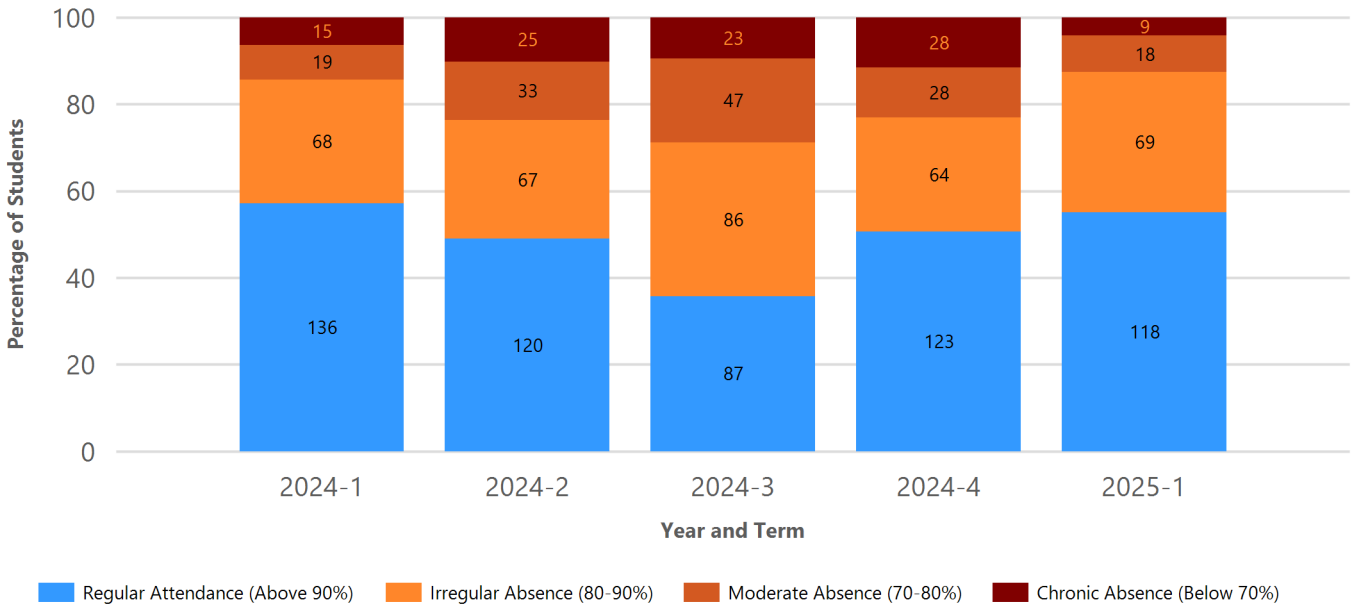
How many students are in each student attendance category?



In Term 1 of Year 2025, 118 of your students were attending school regularly, with 55% students at school above 90% of the time.

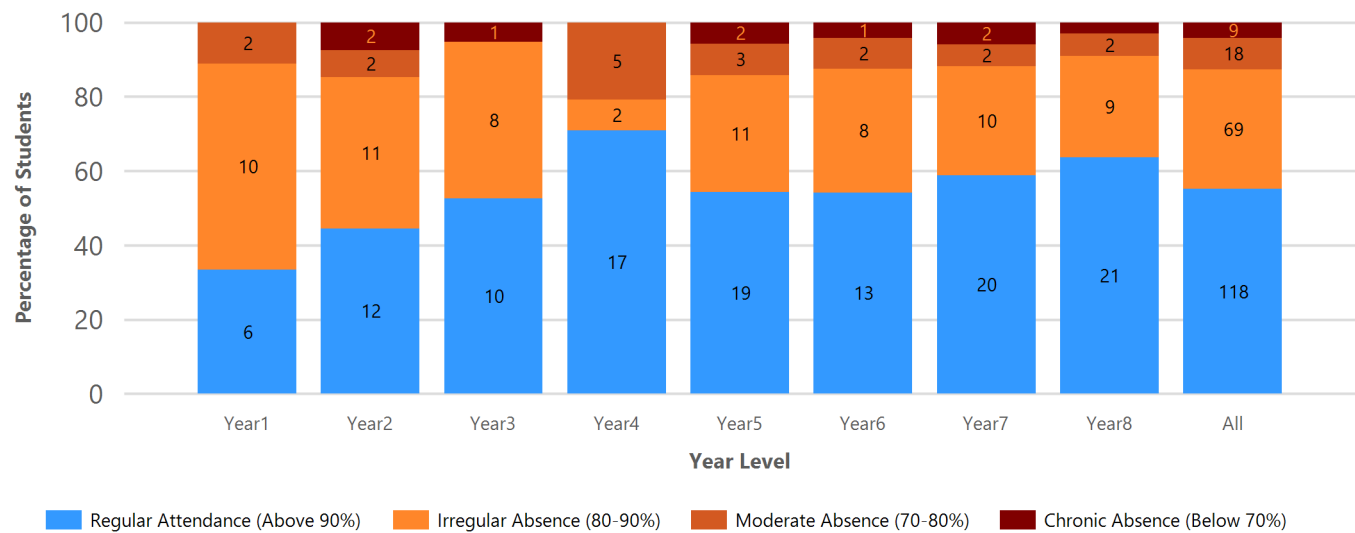
How have your student attendance categories changed over the last 5 terms?

NOTE: Percentages are shown on the vertical axis while the bars show the actual number of students.



How are your student attendance categories distributed by year level?

NOTE: Percentages are shown on the vertical axis while the bars show the actual number of students.

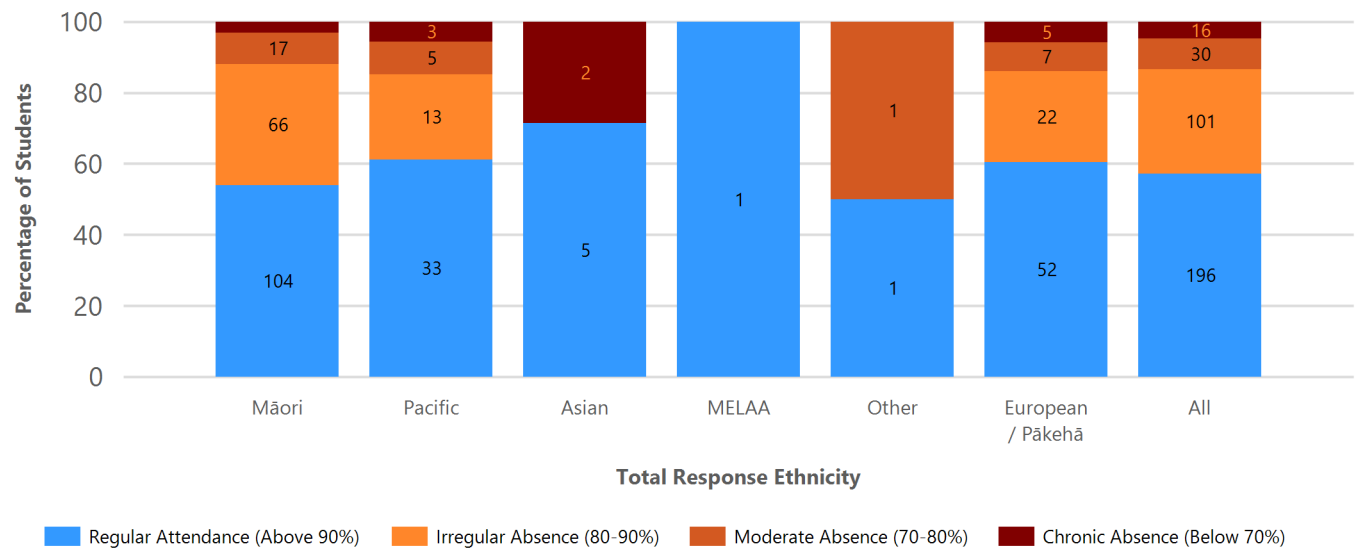


In Term 1 of Year 2025, Year 4 had the highest proportion of students attending regularly, with 71% of students at school above 90% of the time.
In Term 1 of Year 2025, Year 2 had the highest proportion of students with chronic absence, with 7% of students at school less than 70% of the time.

How are your student attendance categories distributed by ethnicity?

NOTE:

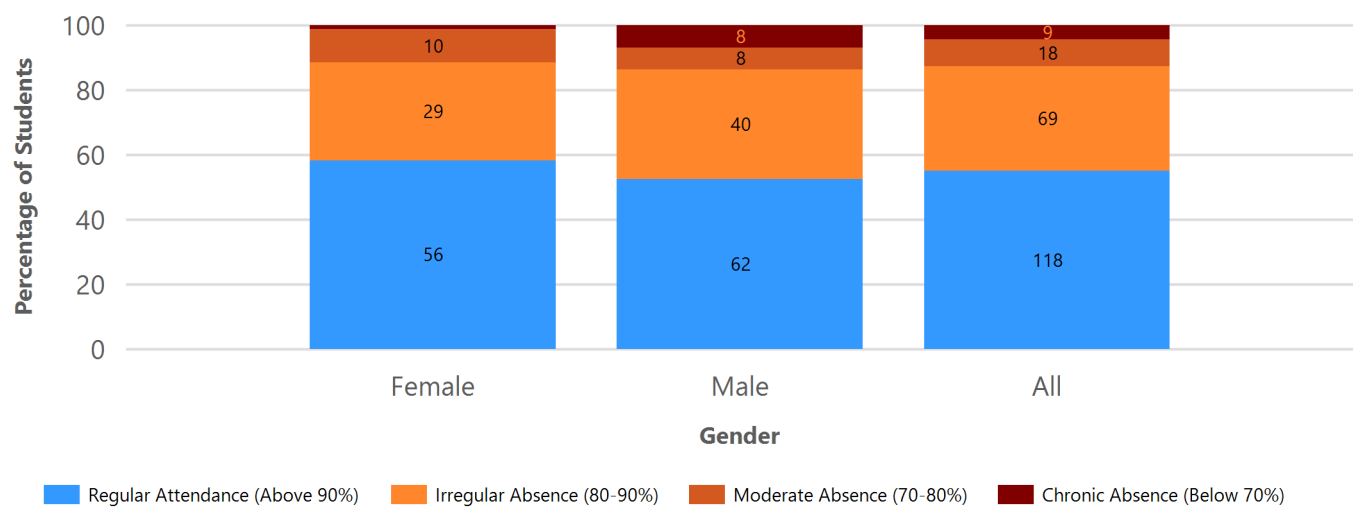
- Students who identify with more than one of these ethnic groups are counted in each.
- Percentages are shown on the vertical axis while the bars show the actual number of students.
- Where there are small numbers in a group, please interpret with caution



In Term 1 of Year 2025, MELAA ethnic group had the highest proportion of students attending regularly, with 100% of students at school above 90% of the time.
In Term 1 of Year 2025, Asian ethnic group had the highest proportion of students with chronic absence, with 29% of students at school less than 70% of the time.

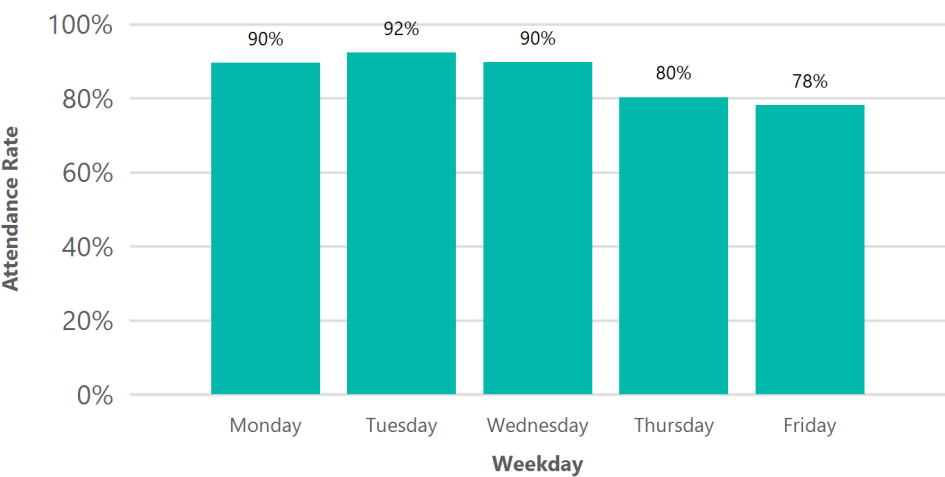
How are your student attendance categories distributed by gender?

NOTE: Percentages are shown on the vertical axis while the bars show the actual number of students.

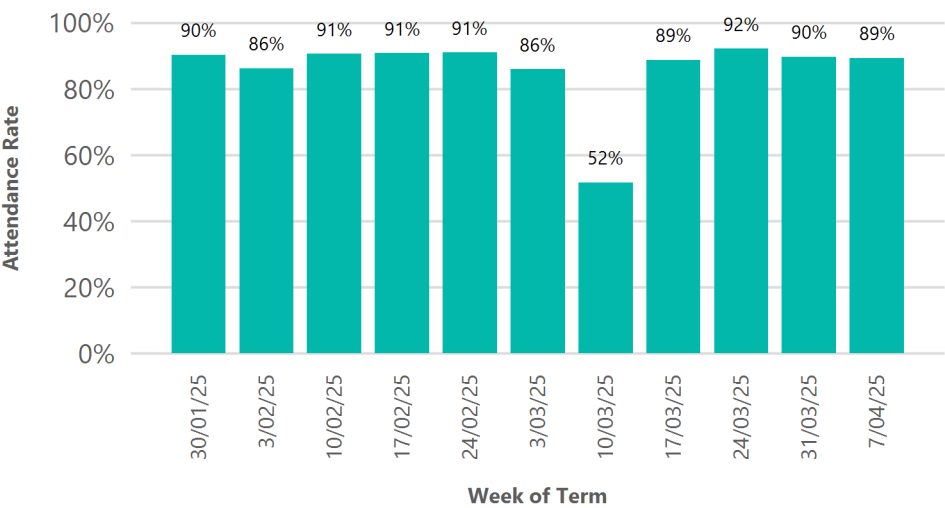


In Term 1 of Year 2025, Female students had the highest proportion of students attending regularly, with 58% of students at school above 90% of the time. In Term 1 of Year 2025, Male students had the highest proportion of students with chronic absence, with 7% of students at school less than 70% of the time.

What is your average attendance rate for each weekday?



What is your average attendance rate for each week?



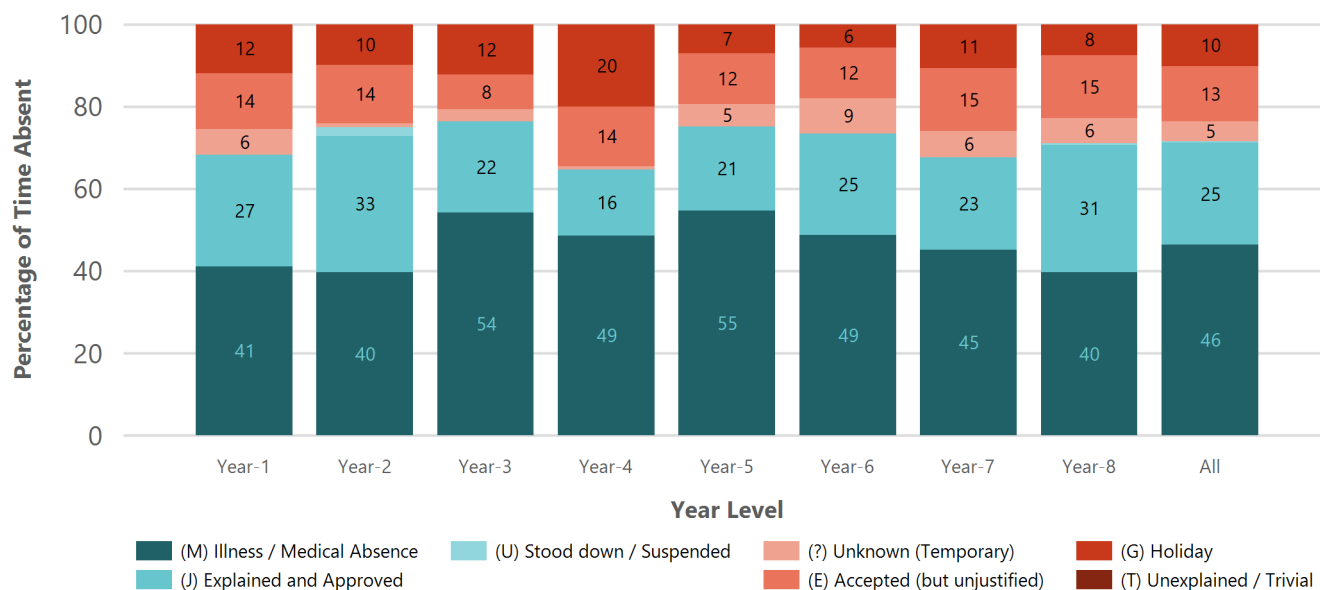
Absence

A '**Justified Absence**' is an absence defined within a school's policy as an acceptable reason for a student to be away from school.

An '**Unjustified Absence**' is recorded when a student is away from school and:

- There is no information or there is a throw-away excuse
- Explained but not within school policy, such as absence due to birthdays
- Absence due to holiday in term-time
- Extracurricular activities not organised by schools like sports, dance, music, or hobbies.

What differences are there between year levels in reasons given for absence?

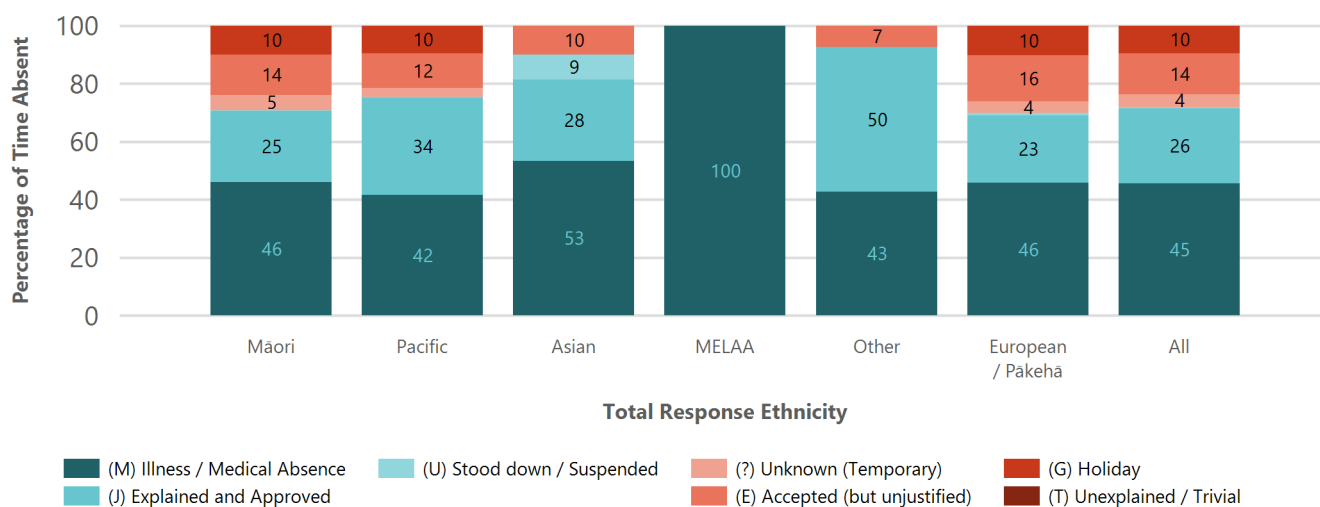


Year 3 students had the highest proportion of justified absences, with 76% of their absences being for justified reasons.

Year 4 students had the highest proportion of unjustified absences, with 35% of their absences being for unjustified reasons.

What differences are there between ethnic groups in reasons given for absence?

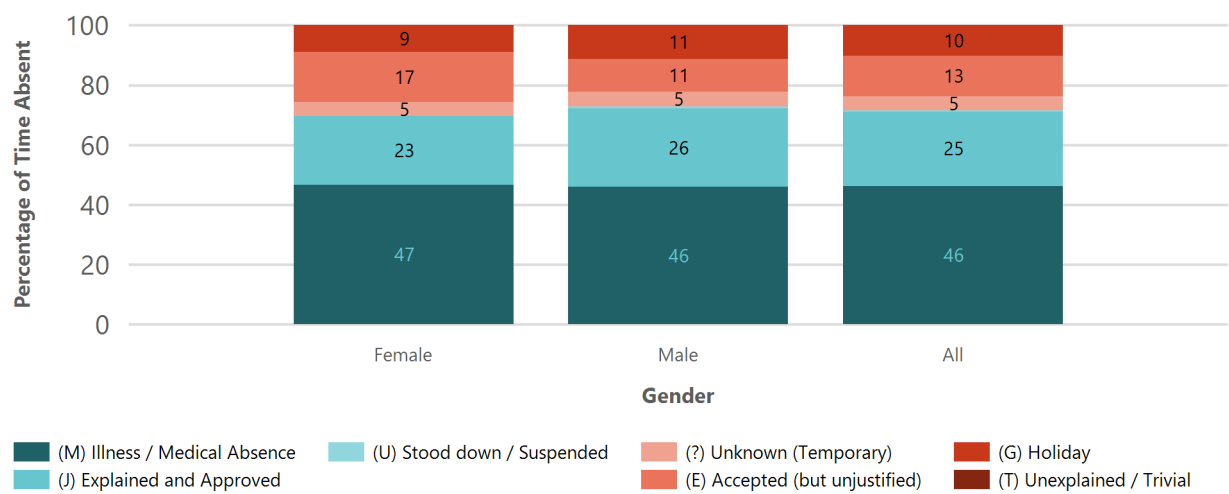
NOTE: Students who identify with more than one of these ethnic groups are counted in each.



MELAA students had the highest proportion of justified absences, with 100% of their absences being for justified reasons.

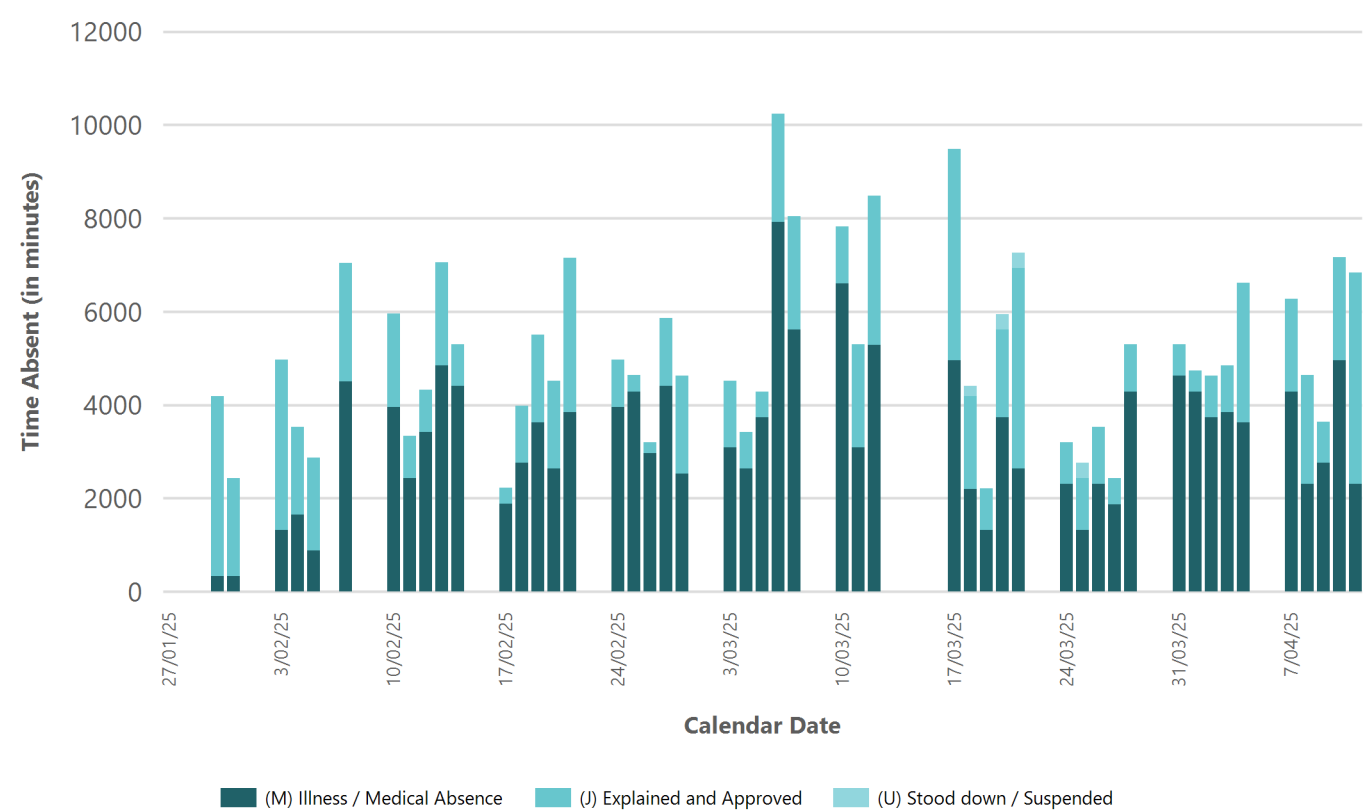
European / Pākehā students had the highest proportion of unjustified absences, with 30% of their absences being for unjustified reasons.

What differences are there between genders in reasons given for absence?



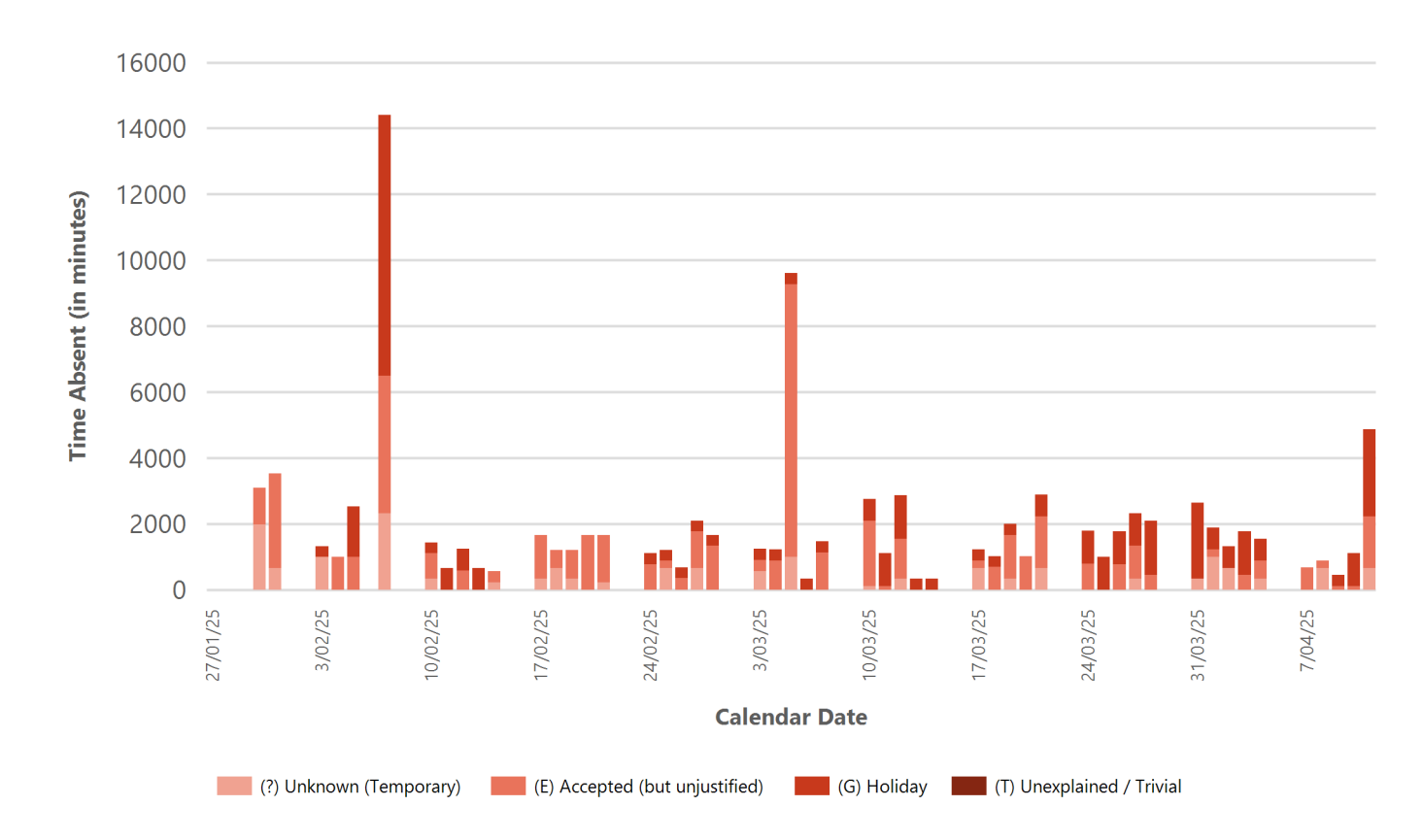
Male students had the highest proportion of justified absences, with 73% of their absences being for justified reasons. Female students had the highest proportion of unjustified absences, with 30% of their absences being for unjustified reasons.

Which days and weeks had high Justified Absence?



In Term 1 of Year 2025, Justified absence was highest on the 06/03/2025.

Which days and weeks had high Unjustified Absence?

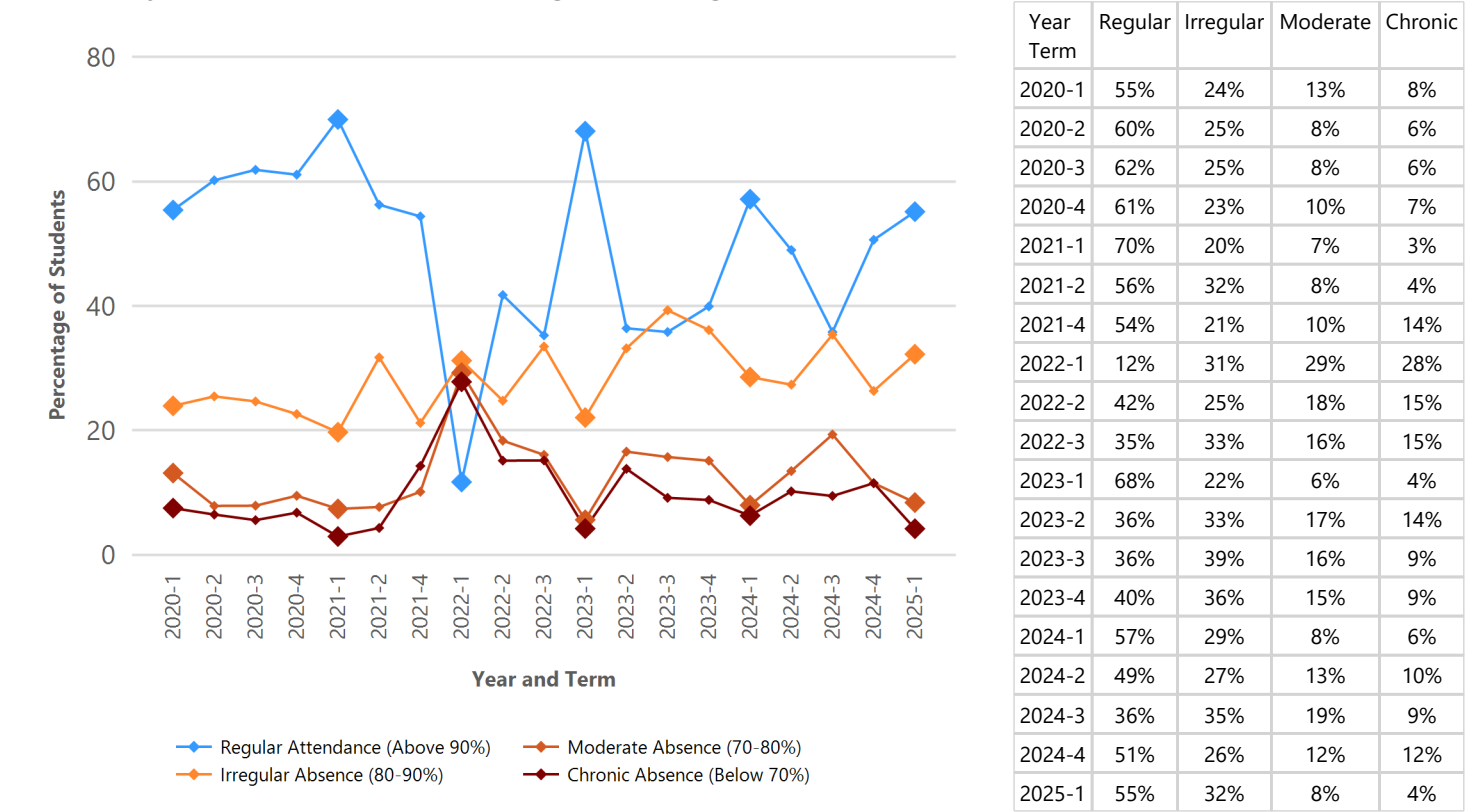


In Term 1 of Year 2025, Unjustified absence was highest on the 07/02/2025.

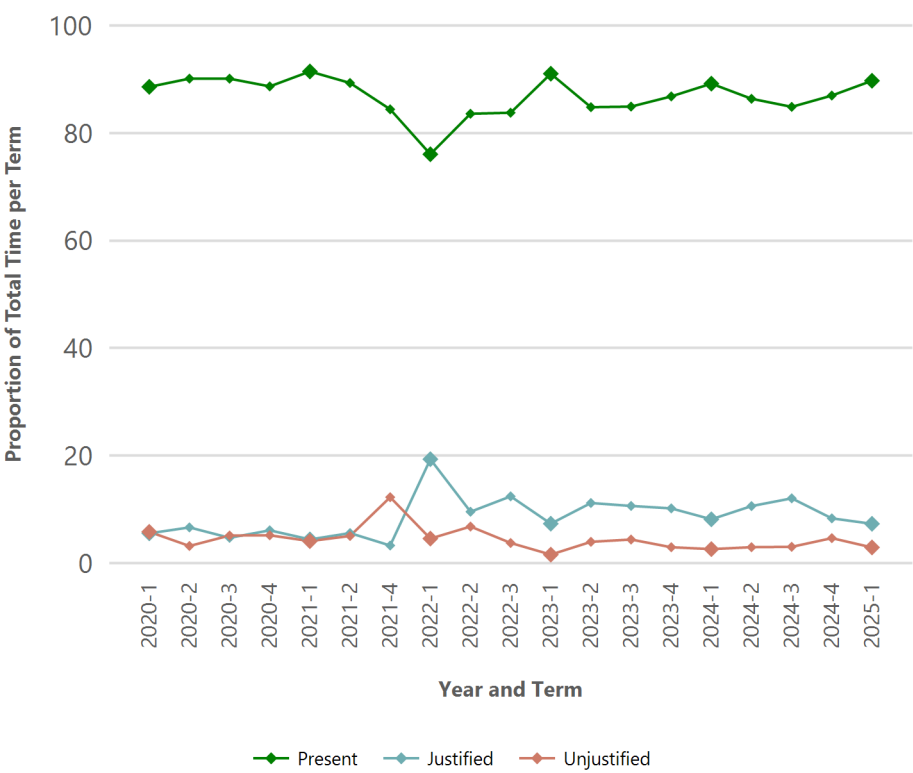
Trends

Because of seasonal changes from term to term its best to compare the same term over time. Compare Term 2 to Term 2.

How have your student attendance categories changed over time?



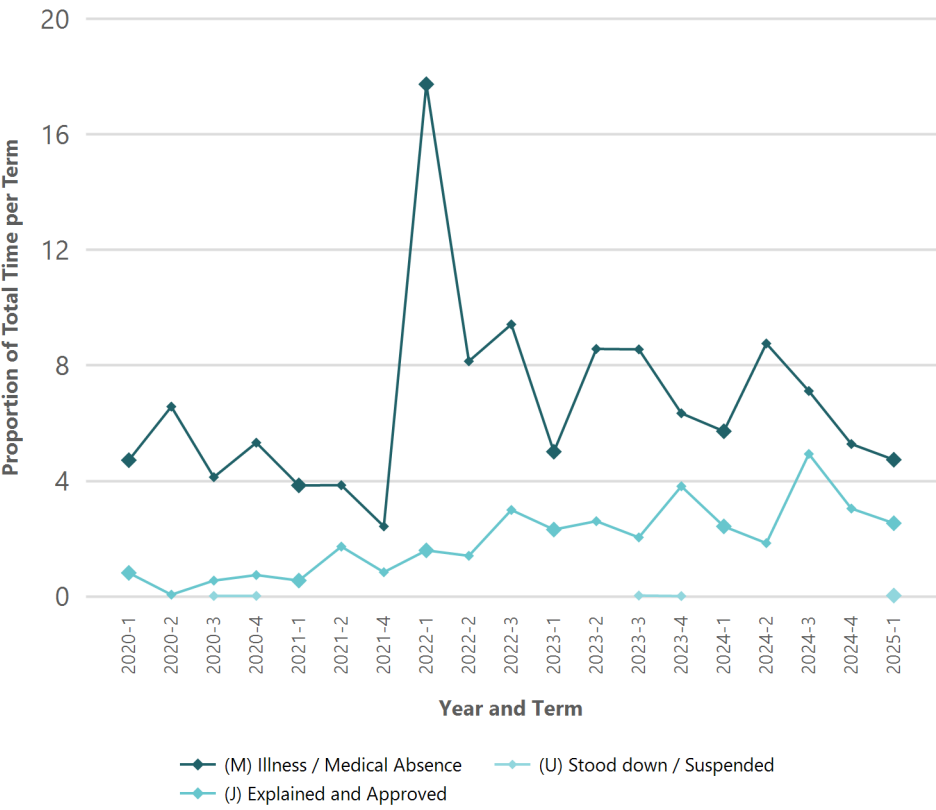
How has the percentage of student time Present, Justified absent and Unjustified absent for each term changed over time?



Year Term	Present	Justified	Unjustified
2020-1	89%	6%	6%
2020-2	90%	7%	3%
2020-3	90%	5%	5%
2020-4	89%	6%	5%
2021-1	92%	4%	4%
2021-2	89%	6%	5%
2021-4	84%	3%	12%
2022-1	76%	19%	5%
2022-2	84%	10%	7%
2022-3	84%	12%	4%
2023-1	91%	7%	2%
2023-2	85%	11%	4%
2023-3	85%	11%	4%
2023-4	87%	10%	3%
2024-1	89%	8%	3%
2024-2	86%	11%	3%
2024-3	85%	12%	3%
2024-4	87%	8%	5%
2025-1	90%	7%	3%

Term 1 of Year 2021 had the highest attendance rate. Term 1 of Year 2022 had the lowest attendance rate.

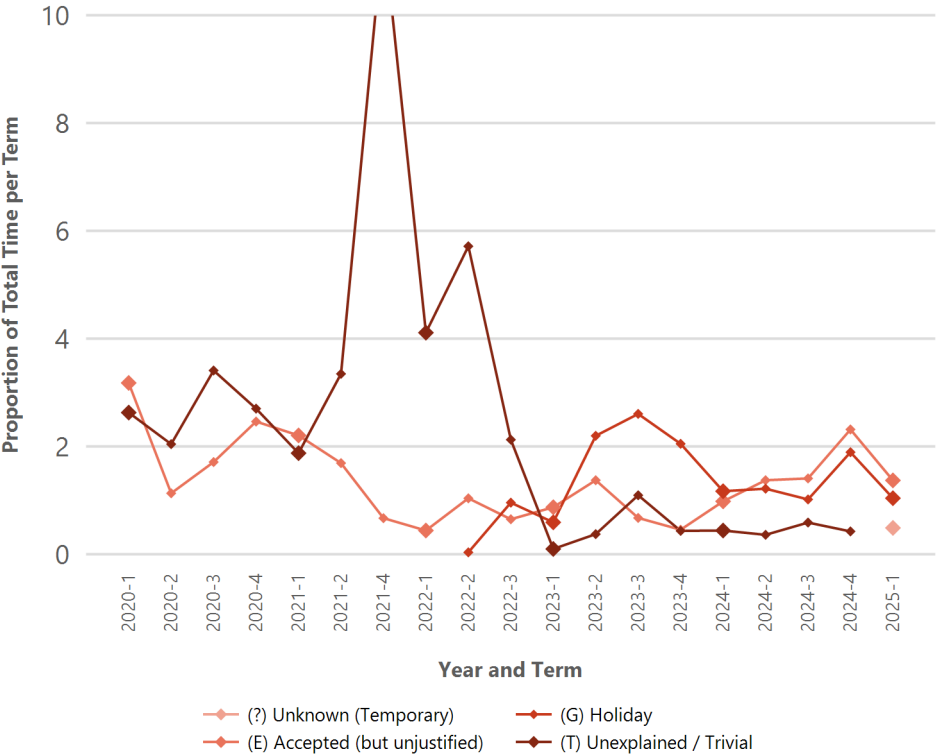
How has your use of justified absence codes changed over time?



Year Term	M	J	U
2020-1	4.72%	0.82%	
2020-2	6.58%	0.07%	
2020-3	4.13%	0.55%	0.02%
2020-4	5.33%	0.74%	0.02%
2021-1	3.85%	0.55%	
2021-2	3.86%	1.73%	
2021-4	2.43%	0.84%	
2022-1	17.74%	1.60%	
2022-2	8.15%	1.41%	
2022-3	9.42%	3.00%	
2023-1	5.02%	2.32%	
2023-2	8.57%	2.61%	
2023-3	8.56%	2.05%	0.04%
2023-4	6.35%	3.82%	0.02%
2024-1	5.72%	2.43%	
2024-2	8.76%	1.85%	
2024-3	7.12%	4.94%	
2024-4	5.28%	3.05%	
2025-1	4.74%	2.54%	0.04%

Term 1 of Year 2022 had the highest count of justified absence codes. Term 4 of Year 2021 had the lowest count of justified absence codes.

How has your use of unjustified absence codes changed over time?



Year Term	?	E	G	T
2020-1		3.18%		2.63%
2020-2		1.14%		2.05%
2020-3		1.72%		3.41%
2020-4		2.47%		2.71%
2021-1		2.21%		1.88%
2021-2		1.70%		3.35%
2021-4		0.67%		11.59%
2022-1		0.44%		4.12%
2022-2		1.04%	0.04%	5.72%
2022-3		0.65%	0.96%	2.13%
2023-1		0.88%	0.60%	0.10%
2023-2		1.38%	2.20%	0.38%
2023-3		0.68%	2.61%	1.10%
2023-4		0.46%	2.05%	0.44%
2024-1		0.99%	1.17%	0.45%
2024-2		1.38%	1.22%	0.37%
2024-3		1.41%	1.02%	0.59%
2024-4		2.32%	1.90%	0.43%
2025-1	0.49%	1.38%	1.04%	

Term 4 of Year 2021 had the highest count of unjustified absence codes. Term 1 of Year 2023 had the lowest count of unjustified absence codes.

Next Steps

This report can be used to inform conversations with your staff and school board about student attendance and unjustified absences in your school. The four Student Attendance Categories and other insights provided in this report can be used to support targeted interventions and measure the effects of these activities.

You may wish to use the student-level data in your Student Management System (SMS) to identify the individual students in each Student Attendance Category. Seek further support from your SMS provider if you need guidance on how to do this.

Develop clear processes to identify and manage attendance including early identification and an escalation process.

You may wish to refer students to an attendance service provider for additional support to get them back to school. Attendance Service staff might visit a child at home to support them back to school. The Attendance Service also employs attendance officers who can work with your school and communities to identify and support students on the cusp of persistent absence (moderate and irregular).

Resources and Support

If you have any **questions about this report**, or need assistance, please get in touch:

- EveryDayMatters@education.govt.nz; or
- Your [local Ministry office](#).

For guidance on applying attendance codes (and to obtain a copy of the Attendance Code Tree), please visit our [Attendance Code resources page](#).

Key Messages

A connected school community that does everything to make sure students are attending, participating, and progressing in their education can play a pivotal role in raising attendance.

Set strong expectations around attendance with parents and caregivers, including emphasising the impacts of non-attendance and especially from unjustified absences and lateness.

The following key messages are designed to be shared with school staff, board members and the community:

1. Regular attendance at school helps build and maintain a child's learning and positive daily habits and routines, as well as promoting their wellbeing by connecting them to their peers and learning new things.
2. We want our ākonga to thrive and be resilient and active members within their whānau and community.
3. Attendance matters and we can all work together to increase school attendance.

The following [Attendance presentation](#) can be used when talking with parents and suggested content for school newsletters can be found [here](#).