

Full-time education

A child's right to full-time education and the use of reduced timetables in schools – a brief guide for parents and carers

What does the law say?

- All children of compulsory school age have a right to receive full-time education.
- Every school has a legal responsibility to provide full-time education for all of its pupils.
- Parents and carers must ensure that their children of compulsory school age who are registered at school attend regularly.

When might a reduced timetable be used?

The use of a reduced timetable for your child should be an exceptional measure and can only be arranged with your agreement. Reasons for a school and parent/carers (and the child themselves where appropriate) agreeing to a reduced timetable could include:

- Medical reasons - where a pupil has a serious medical condition where recovery is the priority outcome.
- As part of a short-term support package where a pupil is struggling in the school setting, perhaps with behaviour.
- As part of a planned reintegration into school following an extended period of absence following, for example, exclusion, non-attendance or school refusal.

Children with Special Educational Needs

If a pupil has a Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN) or an Education, Health and Care Plan any consideration of a reduced timetable must include liaison with Cornwall Council. You can get further information and advice by contacting the Statutory SEN Service (contact details below) or by having a look at the Local Offer: www.supportincornwall.org.uk

Who to contact

Education Welfare Service – for advice and support relating to attendance at school:

01872 323400 educationwelfare@cornwall.gov.uk www.cornwall.gov.uk/educationwelfare

Statutory SEN Service – for advice and support relating to Special Educational Needs

01872 324242 specialeducation@cornwall.gov.uk

www.cornwall.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/special-educational-needs-file/

If you would like this information in another format please contact:

Cornwall Council, County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro TR1 3AY

Email: equality@cornwall.gov.uk Telephone: **0300 1234 100**