



MAT approach to lateness – Child version

As a MAT and as a school, we know that ANYONE can be late. Things that can affect the day could be:

- Traffic jams
- The alarm not going off on time
- An accident at home- like a spilt breakfast down a uniform that needs changing

These things are nobody's fault and can happen to ANYONE!

Frequent lateness is what we need to watch out for.

Did you know that being 20 minutes late every day for a year is the same as missing 3 whole weeks of school?

What are the effects of being late?

- It disrupts your education
- If you are constantly missing a particular subject e.g. Phonics sessions or the introduction to a Maths unit- you will start to fall behind in this area
- When you do arrive at school late, you may be tired, stressed, out of breath and unable to concentrate for a while.
- Your work may suffer as you won't know what to do (because you have missed the introduction) and school stops being fun
- Even though being late may not be your fault, it can be embarrassing and stressful for you
- Being late means you don't get to see your friends before school to have a chat and catch up
- There may be other sanctions as a result of you being late – please ask your teacher what these might be.

What can YOU do to avoid being late all the time?

- Speak to your parents or carers and explain why being on time is important you and your education
- You could ensure that you have your own alarm set the night before. You could even set it ten minutes earlier to ensure you have plenty of time for any unplanned accidents like spillages
- You could make sure your bag is packed the night before. Include things like your homework and PE bag if you know you have to spend time searching for these in the morning
- You could also lay out your uniform ready the night before as this will save you time in the morning.
- Make sure you remind your parent or carer to leave home with plenty of time to get you to school. You might want to allow for extra time if the weather is bad or you know there will be queues of traffic in the usual places.
- All these little tips should mean that you arrive at school in a calm and happy manner feeling ready to learn.

What happens if I still need extra help with my lateness?

Remember you can always speak to your class teacher or an adult in school who can support you with this.

