

Schooling: Activity 1a - **Absenteeism**

## Source 3

## EXTRACTS FROM VICTORIAN SCHOOL LOG BOOKS

**Aldingbourne Board School**© West Sussex Record Office [E1/12/1]**1880 Feb 27**

Several of the children have been sent home this week as they were suffering from whooping cough.

**1881 March 7 -11**

Several absentees this week. Some absent on account of the weather, others employed in 'Bird scaring'.

**1881 June 27 - July 1**

The Haymaking season keeps a great many children away from school.

**1884 Sept 15 -19**

Blackberries being unusually abundant this year, several children are absent from school blackberry gathering.

**1885 May 4 - 8**

The wet weather has kept several absent from school this week on account of distance from school & lack of water-tight shoes.

**Cocking National School**© West Sussex Record Office [E53/12/1]**1880 Feb 19**

Very wet this morning. Many children from Bepton & Linch were so wet on reaching school that they were sent home again.

**1881 Jan 21**

There has been but one day's school this week owing to the severe snowstorm which commenced last Tuesday morning. On that morning only 10 children presented themselves; the next day 4; the next 2; and the next none at all.

**1881 Aug 8**

As not more than a dozen of the elder children came to school this morning, harvesting being now very general, the school was closed for harvest & hopping vacation.

**East Grinstead Board School: Girl's Department**

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**1885 Oct 30**

Some of the girls attend very badly. The excuse is 'Wanted at home'.

**1887 Feb 18**

Several of the big girls have left school & gone out as servants.

**1887 May 6**

Attendance 10 less this week than last. I think this is owing to children carrying out their May garlands on Monday.

**Ifield National School**

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**1880 April 30**

Poor attendance this afternoon. Several children away getting flowers for May-day.

**1880 Aug 13**

Closed school this afternoon for four weeks Harvest Holidays.

**1880 Nov 30**

Several boys who have not passed the required Standard employed often by Major Ripon (magistrate), beating for his shooting.

**1882 Nov 3**

Found several boys absent getting wood for bonfire.

**Worth National School**

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**1883 May 1**

The attendance very poor to-day in consequence of many boys being away, carrying May Poles about.

**1884 June 23**

The attendance very poor this morning, there being 45 boys absent, chiefly owing to the Small Pox scare; it having broken out in one of the families at the Bridges.

**1885 Jan 26**

Received the answer to a number of enquiries as to the cause of irregular attendances of a number of the boys and the excuses given are chiefly illness, beating, minding the baby, going errands & chillblains.