

# Attendance Matters

**Attendance at school is important because there is such a strong link between attendance and achievement. Attendance matters because we want every student to achieve to their potential.**

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## **Every day counts**

- Students with good attendance are more likely to achieve better examination results and go on to have more successful careers.
- All students should aim for 100% attendance and we will reward excellent or significantly improved attendance.
- We will contact you if your child's attendance falls below expectations to see how we can help to improve their attendance.

## **Be on time - so you don't miss out on learning. It's also good practice for when you get a job**

- Arriving 15 minutes late per day would mean missing 2 weeks of school over a year.

## **Call in sickness absence by 8.30am - phone the main school number and select the option for reporting an absence**

- Where possible please book dental and medical appointments after school.
- If you are unsure if your child is genuinely unwell, please send them to school with a note and a contact number in case we need to call.

**Let us know if there is a problem so that we can do something about it**

- This could be struggling with a particular lesson, having trouble with peers or anything that is putting them off coming to school.

**If there is an exceptional reason to request an absence during term time please complete a request form.**

***Holidays during term time will not be authorised and unauthorised absence of 5 or more consecutive days are likely to result in a fine (£60 per parent per child).***

**We are legally required to challenge persistent absence and may be required to take legal action where attendance doesn't improve.**

- Persistent absence is considered as attendance of 90% or less.
- We may have to refer you to the Local Authority to start Fast Track proceedings which could result in:
  - A fixed penalty notice of £60 per parent per child
  - A fine of up to £2500 or imprisonment

**If you have any queries or concerns please call us and ask to speak to the Academy Attendance Officer.**

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## 100% - Excellent

Make the most of all opportunities

## 96 - 99% - Good

Students who have over 95% attendance are more likely to gain 5 or more A\*-C GCSEs or equivalent qualification.

## 90 - 95%

### - Below expectations

91.5% attendance = missing 17 days of school in a year. On average this means that a student will drop 1 GCSE grade.

## Under 90%

### - Persistent Absence

Students with less than 90% attendance are considered to be 'persistently absent' and unlikely to gain 5 A\*-C GCSEs.

## 90% and under

### - Persistent Absentee

If your child falls into this category you will be considered for intervention by the school or Local Authority in order to help increase attendance.

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