



RE: Whole School Attendance

September 2022

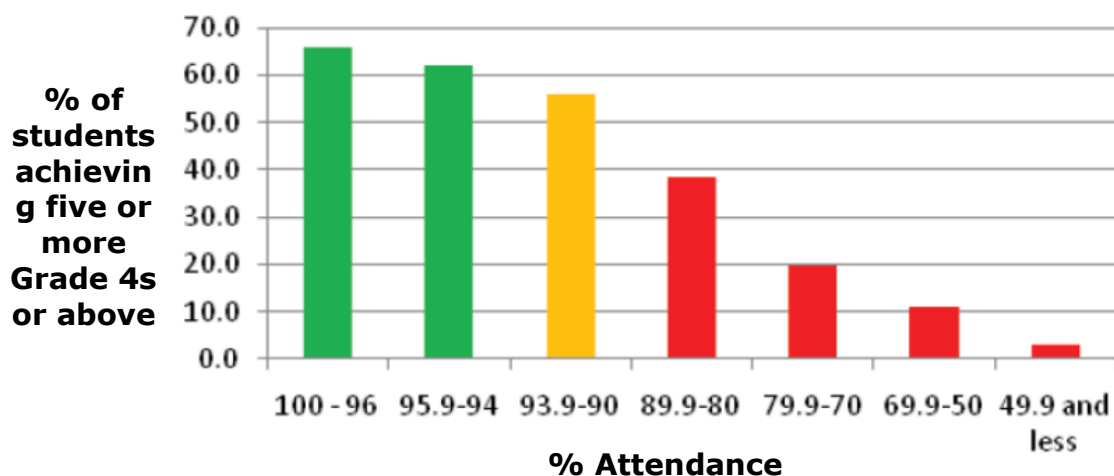
Dear Parent/Carer

The link between attendance, attainment, and the progress of students in school is beyond doubt. We, at school, know that full attendance is the largest contributing factor of any student's achievement. A single day's absence means at least two days' loss of progress.

1. Less than 95% attendance will lead to some underachievement as a result of two weeks absence.
2. Less than 90% attendance will lead to severe underachievement as a result of a months absence.
3. Less than 80% attendance will mean that achievement **will** be very poor to non-existent.

Over the past few years students have missed a significant amount of education and now more than ever it is important that they are in school. Whilst we accept in some cases there will be genuine reasons for your child's absence, as a school we set high expectations to ensure all students are able to reach their full potential. Attendance is crucial if students are to be successful at school.

As shown in the graph below there is a significant link between attendance and success in examinations. This will also be transferable when our students enter the world of work, a trait we are really keen to foster in our young people. Excellent attendance is therefore essential if students are to achieve commensurate to their ability.



This year the DfE have changed the legislation in regards to attendance and punctuality. From September the closing of registration has changed from 10.30am to 9.20am. Any student who arrives after 9.20am will be marked with a code U (late after the closing of the register) and therefore marked as absent for the morning session. As a result of this change punctuality matters, now more than ever. Any student who is regularly late to school will see this reflected in their attendance record. As an example:

- A student who arrives to school at 9.30 every day within a week will be recorded as U for each morning sessions and therefore have a recorded attendance of 50%.

Therefore, it is of the utmost importance that students are rarely absent but also never late.

I am so grateful for the ongoing support from all our families in all matters concerning whole school attendance. I know that we will all work together this term to ensure whole school attendance is something that we can all be proud of.

I would also like to give you advanced notice that the Y11 Mock Exam season will start week commencing 7th November 2022 and will run over a period of 3 weeks. Students have been informed and more information will be given to students by their subject teachers.

Please encourage your child to revise in preparation for the mocks.

Regards

Mrs M Smith
Deputy Headteacher

Miss B Dearing
Pastoral Attendance Lead