



Windsor High School and Sixth Form



A part of Windsor
Academy Trust

Headteacher

Mr S R Lanckham, B.Ed.
(Hons), NPQH

Richmond Street, Halesowen, B63 4BB

0121 550 1452

info@windsor.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

www.windsorhighschool.org.uk

@Windsor_Tweets

Company registration no. 07523436
Place of registration: England

BMO/cdr

Attendance (cdr/pa/srl/letter/2023-24)

23rd February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this letter finds you well.

In January, the Department for Education launched a national campaign to remind families of the importance of student attendance at school. The campaign responds to a worrying national increase in student absences.

Research shows that lower attendance leads to lower attainment outcomes for students at Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11). Students who missed less than 1% of sessions across Year 10 and 11 had an average Progress 8 score of +0.73, while those who missed 50% of sessions or more had an average score of -2.83. This means the child with regular attendance makes significantly more progress academically than the child who attends less, who gains weaker exam results and has fewer options and opportunities available to them.

While the link between attendance and attainment is clear, absence is not just about exam results. It's about all the other important moments in school that help shape our young people: building positive relationships with friends, taking part in extracurricular activities and trips, developing important personal skills and finding a sense of belonging within the school community.

Statistics show young people will only be able to realise their full potential, academically and personally, if they are in school and ready to learn at least 97% of the time. I must also stress that it is never too late to benefit from good attendance.

I appreciate that there are times when absence is unavoidable and a student is too unwell to attend. I also understand that in a post-pandemic world, it is sometimes difficult to know when children suffering from mild coughs and colds can and should be sent into school. To help parents make an informed decision, I have linked some [advice and guidance from the Chief Medical Officer](#), which I hope you will find useful.

Equally, for some families, the challenges around attendance are very real and there are significant barriers preventing children from coming into school. If you are struggling and need support, please contact your child's Form Tutor or Head of House and we will work with you to put a plan in place.

Ultimately, as parents and teachers, we all want the best for our children. At Windsor High School and Sixth Form, we will always strive to place them at the heart of everything we do. Please help us to do our very best for them by ensuring they come to school each day. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully

Mr B Morley
Deputy Headteacher



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

