

HaileyburyTurnford

Ambition · Pride · Success

September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: Year 11 Attendance

Attending school is essential for students to make good progress, achieve their full academic potential and therefore have future success and better life chances. Every student at Haileybury Turnford, in line with government expectations is expected to maintain an attendance of at least 95% and a good level of attendance would be at least 96% or higher. After a strong start to the year there are a number of Year 11 students whose attendance has suffered over the last month. It is a widely known fact that missed time from school can have a negative impact on student education and GCSE results.

Students attendance over one school year:

98% attendance = approximately 4 days absent from school

95% attendance approximately 10 days absent from school

90% attendance = approximately 4 weeks absent from school

85% attendance = approximately 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ weeks absent from school

80% attendance = approximately 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ weeks absent from school

(COVID - 19 related time off is not included in the percentages).

Student attendance over 5 years (7 -11)

85-95% attendance = similar to being absent for $\frac{1}{2}$ the school year

80% attendance = similar to having a whole year off school

Students that are below 90% attendance at the end of each term are known as persistent absentees. As described above this is poor attendance and will have a negative impact on the student's learning and achievement. In addition, references required for colleges or job applications will often require information about a student's attendance. Poor attendance does impact negatively on references and we have to report accurately about your child's attendance. While some school absence cannot be helped, other absences are avoidable.

If a child has a minor ailment they should still come to school, where possible the school will make alternative arrangements to support students that may not be feeling their best. Whilst in the first instance it is for parents / carers to decide whether their child is fit enough for school, we ask that parents default position is that they send their child to school unless it is a significant illness. Coughs, colds are not considered significant illnesses.

It is the responsibility of everyone in our school community - parents, students, staff and governors to ensure students have a high level of attendance at school. We constantly monitor student attendance and encourage you to monitor the attendance of your child. It is important that you are aware of your child's percentage attendance so that you can encourage them appropriately. Please ensure your child knows you are monitoring their attendance and that you expect them to have as close to 100% attendance as possible.

Yours faithfully



Mrs G Hayward-Bishop
Attendance Officer



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