

16 March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Attendance and Academic Achievement matter

Regular attendance ensures that students get the best possible outcomes from their period in compulsory education. This also contributes to minimising the likelihood of a young person not being in education, training or employment post 16 years; reducing social exclusion and improving their chances of employment in the longer term.

Research has shown that students with over 95% attendance are three times more likely to achieve a grade 4 or above. Being absent adds to the pressures of academy life with a lot of work being missed (please see the table below).

| Attendance during Academic Year | Equates to how many days absence | Which is approximately | Which means the number of lessons missed |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 94% | 10 Days | 2 Weeks | 50 Lessons |
| 90% | 19 Days | 4 Weeks | 100 Lessons |
| 85% | 29 Days | 6 Weeks | 150 Lessons |
| 80% | 38 Days | 8 Weeks | 200 Lessons |
| 75% | 48 Days | 10 Weeks | 250 Lessons |
| 70% | 57 Days | 11.5 Weeks | 290 Lessons |
| 65% | 67 Days | 13.5 Weeks | 340 Lessons |

Raising the profile of attendance

This term we will be communicating more regularly with you about your child's attendance. Every two weeks you will receive a text message indicating your child's attendance to date. Please use these messages to speak to your child about their attendance and encourage them to attend as much as possible. If you require support regarding attendance, please contact us.

Attendance Support

Below is a summary table of our tiered approach to raising attendance and the academy interventions related to different percentage attendance ranges:



The Sutton Academy
Together Students Achieve
Principal: Mr Paul Willerton

| Attendance range | Academy intervention |
|------------------|---|
| 95.9% - 94% | Form Tutor monitoring |
| 93.9% - 92% | Achievement Leader monitoring |
| 91.9% - 88% | Head of Year monitoring |
| 87.9% - 85% | Head of Year parental meeting and action plan (1) |
| 84.9% - 80% | Targeted Educational Welfare Service (EWS) referral Academy Leadership Team parental meeting and action plan (2) |
| < 85% | Targeted Educational Welfare Service (EWS) referral Trustee panel and action plan (3) |

My child will be absent

If your child is ill and they need to stay at home, please only keep them off for as long as is absolutely necessary and report all absences to the Attendance line on 01744 678859 or via the Gateway app. You should report each day your child is off. **We may ask for medical evidence for periods of prolonged or persistent absence and if we notice patterns of absence through illness we will invite you in for a health meeting to discuss any additional support that may be required.**

If you have any questions about attendance please contact one of the attendance team. Thank you very much for your continued support on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Hodgson

Assistant Principal

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