

Thursday, 02 May 2024

Dear Families,

RE: Important Notice Regarding Student Attendance at Great Academy Ashton

We hope this letter finds you well. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of regular student attendance at Great Academy Ashton. As we strive to provide the best possible education for our students, attendance plays a crucial role in their academic success and overall development.

As we are now well and truly into the summer term, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that all holidays should be taken outside of term time. Whilst we appreciate the challenges families have faced over the previous few years, we place great emphasis and focus over the long term academic success of our students, this is underpinned by excellent attendance.

Government (DfE) research suggests that 16 days absence or 92% attendance in any one year equals a full G.C.S.E. grade drop in attainment.

Attending school regularly is not only a legal requirement but also essential for your child's progress. Regular attendance helps students:

Acquire and retain knowledge: Consistent attendance ensures that students do not miss out on important lessons, discussions, and activities in the classroom. It helps them build a solid foundation of knowledge and skills that are necessary for academic success.

Foster positive relationships: Building relationships with teachers and peers is an important part of a student's social and emotional development. Regular attendance allows students to engage in classroom discussions, group activities, and many of our extracurricular events, which contribute to their overall growth and confidence.

Develop good habits: Regular attendance instils in students a sense of responsibility, accountability, and time management. These are essential life skills that will benefit them not only during their academic years but also in their future careers.

As we continue to emphasise the importance of attendance, we kindly request your support in ensuring that your child attends school regularly and arrives on time. If your child is unable to attend school due to illness or any other legitimate reason, please notify the school as soon as possible. Our school gates close at 8.35am. Students are expected to be through the gates and ready for 'Morning Mood' by 8.35am. Excellent punctuality not only demonstrates a commitment to their own education but also ensures your child develops good habits in preparation for further education or next steps in employment.

In case of any concerns or challenges that may affect your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you and your child in every way possible.

Thank you for your cooperation in fostering a culture of excellent attendance at Great Academy Ashton. Together, we can ensure that your child receives the best possible education and opportunities for success.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. J Hartley
Assistant Principal
Great Academy Ashton