

HST/SAP

1st December 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

The importance of Good Attendance

Attendance and punctuality are vital for success in school, we encourage all students to have 96% attendance or above and to be on time to school and all lessons. *Children with 96% attendance are five times more likely to get 5 or more GCSE grades 9-4 than those with 85% and just being 15 minutes late every day is the same as missing 2 weeks off school.* However, good attendance isn't just about educational outcomes and success, good attendance is important for many other reasons, these include building relationships and friendships, mental health and the opportunity to participate in events such as trips and visits.

This week Mr Scott is delivering assemblies on attendance and punctuality, and I am writing to all parents to remind them about the importance of good attendance and punctuality. As part of this process, we will be launching our new lates procedure which will be put in place from Monday 5th December 2022.

From this date, all students need to be on site by 8.25am and outside their tutor room ready for an 8.30am start. If students arrive at their year group doors after 8.28am, then they will not be at their tutor room ready for an 8.30am start, and so will be classed as late and need to make their way round to the purple gate where they will be signed in by a senior member of staff. As part of this process their planner will be stamped and a 30 minute correction will be issued for being late.

The DfE guidance is very clear on lates and if your child arrives more than 30 minutes outside the start of the day then it is an UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE and coded on registers as a U. This differs from a student who does not attend at all and is coded as a O. Students with a U, do not gain attendance marks for the session concerned.

We thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Ms H Stennett Principal

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Principal: Ms. H. Stennett

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