WHAT IS GOOD ATTENDANCE?

Is your Attendance on Track?

100% Attendance

Well Done!

- Our target for all students
- You are right on track

97% Attendance

Well Done, keep it up

- You are on the right track for success keep it up
- 6 Days Absence = 30 hours of lost learning

95% Attendance

We're Concerned

- Poor attendance gives you less chance of success
- 10 Days Absence = 50 hours of lost learning

90% Attendance

Seriously Worried

- Very poor attendance has a serious impact on your education
- 19 Days Absence = 95 hours of lost learning

Is 90% good attendance?

90% sounds like a lot. It's a great score on a test, but is it good school attendance for your child?

- 90% attendance means your child misses 10% of their time in school.
- This is the equivalent to missing ½ a day every week! That's 3 lessons worth of learning that your child misses out on every week!
- It is a total of 19 days' absence over the academic year.

90%

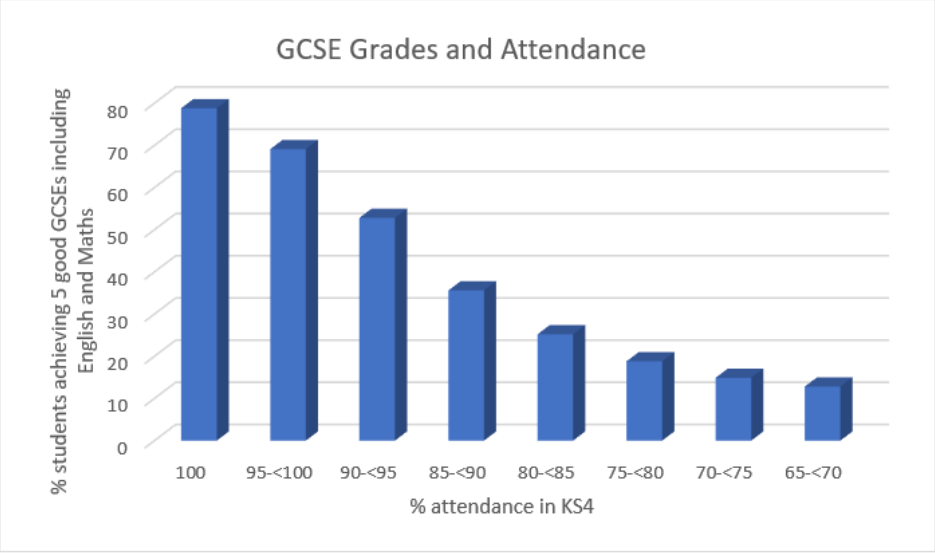
Myths

- *"Absences are only a problem if they are unauthorised"* Authorised absences still affect your child's learning and opportunities in the same way, it is still lost learning time.
- *"Attendance only matters in the older year groups"* They KS3 curriculum is the foundation for learning in KS4. If your child has poor attendance in lower years, they will be behind their peers when they reach their GCSEs.

How could this affect my child?

Attendance is directly linked to achievement. Students who attend more learn more enabling them to get better grades

- Department for Education research shows that 17 school days of absences results in all of a student's GCSE grades dropping by one grade.
- This could be the difference between passing or failing any of their courses.
- Higher attendance means higher achievement. If your child's grades suffer because of poor attendance, the qualifications they miss out on could have a long term impact on their future.



Did you know?

Our target attendance is 97% but we want all students and parents to aim for 100%

- Under section 7 of the Education Act 1996 parents are responsible for making sure their children receive full-time education.
- Missing 10%, or 2 days of school a month, over the course of the school year, can drastically affect a students' academic success.
- Missing morning form time at 8.50am-9.10am means the full morning session mark is missed. This will be classed as a 'U' code which is unauthorised attendance.
- The Local Authority will issue fines if 10 or more unauthorised sessions are missed over 2 school terms.
- Missing afternoon registration at 1.10pm means the afternoon session mark is missed.
- Please ask for holiday leave at least 4 weeks in advance. (See guidance later in booklet)
- If your child has been sick or has had diarrhoea there is no 48-hour rule, they should come back into school as soon as they are well enough.
- Good attendance in school develops positive behaviours for college and any future job/career your child may follow.
- There is plenty of time outside of school hours and term time for routine appointments like the dentist or Doctors. Don't book them during the school day unless absolutely necessary.

When is absence necessary?

Good reasons to STAY HOME

- Your child has a medical appointment that cannot be arranged outside of school hours.

- Your child is physically sick, has a temperature or a rash.

- Your child has diarrhoea. However as soon as they are well enough they can come back into school, do not wait for 48 hours.

NOT REASONS to Stay Home

- Your child has fallen out with friends. They need to talk to us to help solve the problem instead of avoiding it, please contact your child's SSL.

- Your child feels tired. They need to sleep earlier instead of sleeping in.

- Your child has forgotten or lost their mobile phone. If they need to contact you in an emergency, they can do this via student reception.

- Your child has a headache. One of the most common reasons for this is dehydration. Make sure they bring a water bottle into school and drink throughout the day.

How can you help your child's attendance?

We know you want the best for your child, to achieve this we need you to help keep their attendance as high as possible. Every day of school missed is learning that is lost, that will help them reach their future goals.

- Log onto Synergy to let us know as soon as possible that your child will be absent and why.
- Avoid taking holidays in term time.
- Only allow time off for genuine illness.
- Find out if your child's attendance is on track by logging on to Synergy.
- Look for signs of any truancy or absences you can't explain, discuss these with your child, and listen to any issues they are having in school.
- Report any concerns to your child's form tutor, SSL or Attendance team.
- Praise, encourage, reward and expect good attendance as we do in school.

How can you help your child's attendance?

Your child only gets the chance to attend school once. Every day they are absent is learning time they won't get back. To help them make the most of their time at school, make sure they are attending as much as possible.

100%
Your attendance is excellent!

Our target for all students

97%
Well done!

6 DAYS ABSENCE
30 hours lost to learning

We're on the right path for success, keep it up!

95%
We're concerned

10 DAYS ABSENCE
50 hours lost to learning

A poor attendance gives you less chance of success.

90%
Seriously worried!

19 DAYS ABSENCE
95 hours lost to learning

Very poor attendance has a serious impact on your education reducing your life chances.

Attend to Achieve.

Every School Day Counts.

GOOD ATTENDANCE IS AN EXPECTATION.

- Good attendance is an expectation for all our students. Attending school is an absolute minimum; good behavior, impressive work and consistent engagement goes above and beyond and will be rewarded.

TEACHERS CAN ONLY TEACH YOUR CHILD IF THEY ARE PRESENT.

- We have fantastic teachers who are dedicated to education and to their students, but they can only help your child to learn and succeed if you get your child into school. Help us keep your child's attendance on track and over and above 97% to give them the best possible chance of succeeding in school.

School Contacts

School contact number: 01942 814122

Student Support Leaders

- Year 7 – *Mrs Aaron* – Y7pastoralteam@westhoughton-high.org
- Year 8 – *Miss Swift* – Y8pastoralteam@westhoughton-high.org
- Year 9 – *Mrs Whittle-Darrock* – Y9pastoralteam@westhoughton-high.org
- Year 10 – *Ms Walsh* – Y10pastoralteam@westhoughton-high.org
- Year 11 – *Mr Shaw*– Y11pastoralteam@westhoughton-high.org

Attendance Intervention and Support

- Mrs Foster