

Weekly Bulletin

06 October 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we continue to build upon our culture of being **Ready, Respectful** and **Safe**, we wish to gain your support with ensuring your child is **Ready** for school by supporting us with their **attendance**.

There have been reports published in recent weeks focusing on the **absence of students from school and how it is higher** nationally than before the pandemic. **We know how difficult the return to school and routines has been** and continues to be for some of our students, **we are here to help, as we want your child to have the best opportunity at school**; please see our [Early Help Offer](#) to look at what we can do or please make contact with your child's Tutor in the first instance.



We are incredibly proud of our Year 11 GCSE exam results this summer. Yet again they were impressive and demonstrate how, as a school, we deliver on our ambition of setting students up with the opportunity for future life success. However the **difference in outcomes for those students whose absence was low compared with those for whom it was much higher was very apparent.**

It is almost too simple an equation - **those who attended school the most, got the best outcomes** (almost a grade difference per subject).

Attendance Ladder



Absence from school equals lost learning; lost learning directly impacts what your child will achieve in their GCSE examinations, **which will impact upon their future.** It soon adds up and makes a difference. We need to work together to ensure our young people attend because it will ultimately affect their future success. As you are aware, we use 'Studybugs' to report absence. The app will send you NHS advice on whether your child should still come to school if they are feeling ill (see next page)

Please check your child's Class Charts as Tutors are **celebrating and supporting improved and perfect attendance with positive points.** We are getting ready to launch our "Rewards Shop" soon and your child will be able to exchange their points for rewards of their choice - exciting news to follow!



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What can I do to help?



As a parent or carer you can help by:

- ensuring your child understands the importance of excellent attendance and punctuality
- taking an interest in their education – asking about school work and encourage them to get involved in school activities
- discussing any problems they may have at school and inform their Student Support Officer to pass on concerns quickly
- not allowing them take time off school for minor ailments – particularly those which would not prevent you from going to work
- arranging appointments after school hours, at weekends or during school holidays will help to prevent disruption to your child's education and to the school
- being open and willing to work with us to improve your child's attendance



As a student, you can improve your attendance by:

- speaking to a trusted adult about the reasons why you might not want to come to school
- trying hard every morning to get up and get to school, unless you are really unwell
- getting an early night, feeling tired on a morning can make getting to school harder
- make sure you get to school on time every day

We're all trying to help our young people fulfil their potential. Let's continue to work together positively to remove any barriers that may prevent us from achieving our collective goal. Have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes,



Ian Moreton
Headteacher
Kingswinford Academy



Upcoming events-

- Year 11 Careers Evening - 11 October
- Year 7 Settling-in Evening - 17 October
- End of Half-Term - 27 October

If you do need to report a child absence, do so using the [Studybugs app](#).

If it is an illness-related absence, you will also be sent NHS advice as to whether your child should still attend school (or you can [check here](#))

