



Woodrush High School

An Academy for Students Aged 11-18

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School Attendance – 14 days of Positivity campaign!

Important - please read

Dear Parent/Carer,

As part of our new whole school approach to attendance, we want to pro-actively work in partnership with parents and students to maintain our culture of excellent attendance.

Historically, over the past two weeks we have seen attendance across the school decline and a significant proportion of this is unauthorised as the school has not been provided with a reason for absence. **If students are well enough to be in school, they should still be attending school.**

Firstly, a big thank you to the vast majority of parents who make sure their children attend school regularly!

14 day of Positivity campaign

To help promote a culture of excellent attendance we are excited to launch our positive attendance campaign. We have spoken to students in assemblies last week about the importance of attending school every day. We understand that some students may be tired towards the end of term so this is to help support and encourage our students to attend school every day over the next 14 days. There will be a variety of different incentives, prizes and privileges in place to help encourage students to attend school every day until we finish for Christmas on Thursday, 19th December (12pm early finish). All we ask is for students to arrive to school every day from now until the end of term.

Also, a polite reminder that if your child arrives to school after 8.25am they are late to school. If you drive your child to school please allow time for the traffic due to road works and diversions to ensure your child arrives to school on time.

We thank Parents and Carers in advance for your help and support and encouraging your child to come to school every day. Your efforts, working in partnership with us in school, will ensure that your child will have the best chance to achieve their academic potential and have real opportunity in further education and the world of work.

Please read additional information over leaf to help support your child with their attendance.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Holtom-Brown
Deputy Headteacher

How does your child compare?

Attendance During one School Year:	Equals the number of days absent:	Which is approximately this many weeks:	Which means they miss these many lessons*:	Over a full 5 years at Woodrush, this means they may lose:
95%	9 days	2 weeks	40 lessons	10 Weeks
90%	19 days	4 weeks (1 month)	80 lessons	1 ½ terms
85%	29 days	6 weeks (Half a term)	120 lessons	2 ½ terms (nearly a full year)

* - of which approximately 40% of these are Maths and English lessons

If you are worried about your child/children's attendance, the first port of call is to discuss your concerns with the school directly. The school has specialist staff who may be able to help, and all schools work closely with health and local authority teams who may also be able to help if needed.

If you have concerns about mental health; domestic abuse; parenting; bereavement; finance; problems with drugs and alcohol; you can find help and support from the Worcestershire Family Hub Webpage: [Virtual Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council](#) or from the 'From Birmingham with Love' webpage: [From Birmingham with Love | Birmingham City Council](#) depending on where you live. **You can also receive support from school.**

Additionally, Worcestershire County Council and Birmingham City Council provide online information and guidance to parents on school attendance which you can access here:

- [Pupil attendance and welfare | Worcestershire County Council](#)
- [School attendance, advice for parents | Birmingham City Council](#)

Family holidays in term time are not allowed in law and will not be authorised. Family emergencies also need careful consideration. It is not always appropriate or in the best interests of the child to miss school for emergencies which are being dealt with by adult family members. Notifying the school of leave due to a family emergency does not mean it will be authorised.

Please note that where parents fail to ensure their child attends school regularly, legal action, including penalty notices, may be considered. Please note that Penalties and prosecutions are in respect of each parent for each child, regardless of domestic arrangements. Please see our thresholds and management of attendance document attached to this letter.



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Thresholds for Attendance Improvement and Management

