



Winterton Community Academy

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Headteacher – Mr K Rowlands

Ref: Y10/Attendance/tp

1st March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Here at Winterton Community Academy we pride ourselves on our academic achievements when students leave at the end of Key Stage 4. A part of this success is having good attendance. When students are in school, they are learning the subject specific content along with participating in Personal Development activities which are important in preparing students for the future and life after school.

Since our return after the Christmas holidays, I have noticed a decline in the attendance of some students in Year 10 and I am writing to you to ask for your support to ensure your child is in school. Every school day counts and throughout Year 10 students are already starting to plan and prepare for assessments as part of their G.C.S.E. courses which will count towards their final grades. Year 10 students will also participate in mock exams later this school year.

When students are absent from school regularly, it has a detrimental effect on their learning. When students are absent, gaps in their knowledge appear and the more time they have off the larger the gap becomes. If a child has already had 10 school days of absence, they have missed at least 50 hours of learning. By the end of the year if a child is at 90% or less (persistent absentee) they will have missed at least 100 hours of learning. Research shows this loss of learning time can impact on a child's chance to achieve a grade 4 or above at the end of year 11. If a student does not achieve a 4 or above within their English and Maths, under government guidance, they must re-sit this at college. Therefore, it is in their best interest to attend school to receive the full support needed to achieve this.

The table below demonstrates the hours of learning lost.

Descriptor	Threshold attendance	Actual attendance	Whole days of absence	Learning Hours Lost
Excellent	100%	190 days	0	0
	99%	188 days	2	10
Good	98%	186 days	4	20
	97%	184 days	6	30
	96%	182.5 days	7.5	37.5
Cause for Concern	95%	180.5 days	9.5	47.5
	94%	179 days	11	55
	93%	177 days	13	65
	92%	175 days	15	75
	91%	173 days	17	85
Unsatisfactory	90%	171 days	19	95
	89%	169 days	21	105
	88%	167 days	23	115
	87%	165 days	25	125
Serious cause for concern	86%	163 days	27	135
Critical	85%	161.5 days	28.5	142.5
	84%	159.5 days	30.5	152.5
	83%	158 days	32	160
	82%	156 days	34	170
	81%	154 days	36	180
	80%	152 days	38	190

Moving forward to help us support your child, please encourage positive school attendance and consider if your child is too unwell to attend school.

If you wish to discuss this further, please contact me.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Mrs V Holmes
Head of Year 10