

JM/jaj

September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer



Bloxwich Academy

www.bloxwichacademy.co.uk

Attendance and Punctuality Update

We last wrote to you in July 2023 with information on the latest guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) regarding attendance in preparation for your child's return to school in September. We would like to communicate with parents/carers further support and guidance we have received from the DfE to enable your child to have the best start in the new academic year and to ensure all our pupils are present from day one.

Improving attendance is a top priority of the school and across the country with absence rates still above pre-Covid levels. We aim to continue to support all pupils and families to overcome any barriers preventing pupils from attending school. All pupil's attendance will be closely monitored, and we encourage all pupils to aim for 100% attendance. As a school we appreciate your parental support and rewards and incentives form part of our strategy in acknowledging the success of excellent attendance.

If your child is regularly absent from school and has below 90% attendance, then in addition to home visits to support your child's return to school, the Local Education Authority may take legal action.

Please be reminded of the following:

- If your child is going to be absent from school, then please inform the school by telephone before 8:30am.
- Pupils are expected to be on site by 8:30am and in their form rooms by 8:40am each morning.
- Any child arriving to their form room after 8:40am will be marked as late and will receive a lunchtime detention the same day in a separate part of the school canteen, with further sanctions for any additional lateness.
- Leave of absence during term time will not be authorised. Holidays taken during term time will impact on your child's overall attendance and progress, and you may receive a fixed penalty notice.
- Please make every effort to book any appointments out of school hours. A child will only be authorised to be absent for medical appointments where an appointment card is provided, and your child will be expected to attend school before/after any appointment.



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EDUCATION WITHOUT EXCEPTION

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- Please note that we must be made aware if your child will not be attending school to keep in line with safeguarding procedures. If your child is absent and contact has not been made, we may refer your child to our Education Welfare Officer or to the Safeguarding Team.

To support schools in driving attendance the DfE have provided a collection of supportive resources to help keep parents informed. You can find all this information including our updated attendance and punctuality guide on the links below.

Attendance and punctuality guide

<https://bloxwichacademy.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Attendance-and-Punctuality-Guide-LR.pdf>

NHS advice

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

Parental support with attendance challenges

[DfE Parental support](#)

Back into school resources

[Resources for families | Children's Commissioner for England \(childrenscommissioner.gov.uk\)](#)

Reasonable adjustments

[What are reasonable adjustments and how do they help disabled pupils at school? - The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](#)

I would like to thank you for your support with this crucial matter. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of House by calling 01922 710257 or email postbox@bloxwichacademy.co.uk.

Yours sincerely



A Seager
Headteacher



J Morgan
Assistant Headteacher

