

SEA/MDY/da/Attendance

22nd September 2023



Bloxwich Academy

www.bloxwichacademy.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to update you on the latest guidance from the Department for Education regarding attendance now that we have been back in the academy a few weeks. This guidance, and Bloxwich Academy's attendance policy, reinforces that excellent attendance is central to high levels of academic attainment, as well as preparing students for future education and employment. It is crucial that parents/carers ensure that their child is in school and on time each day, unless in exceptional circumstances.

If your child is going to be absent from school, then please ensure they contact Miss Moody before 8:30am and we have parental confirmation via telephone. Attendance is a learned behaviour and if students do not attend school regularly then they do not learn the importance of commitment, dependability and good timekeeping. Furthermore, when we are writing references for UCAS, apprenticeships and employment we will have to comment on your child's punctuality and attendance.

The government have recently published guidance which provides statistical evidence showing the negative impact poor attendance has on academic achievement and life chances, when compared with students with higher levels of attendance. From the table below, you can see the impact time off school can have on a students' education:

Attendance for ONE term	In ONE term, your child will have missed	In a YEAR , your child will have missed
90%	1 week, 2 days	4 weeks
80%	2 weeks, 4 days	8 weeks
70%	4 weeks, 1 day	12 weeks
60%	5 weeks, 3 days	16 weeks
50%	7 weeks	20 weeks
40%	8 weeks, 2 days	24 weeks

If your child has below 90% attendance and they are not in school for health reasons, we will require medical evidence to be able to authorise the absence. The government considers any students with below 90% attendance to school as persistently absent. If your child is regularly absent from school and has below 90% attendance, then I will be undertaking home visits to ensure your child attends school. I would also like to remind you that holidays/trips during term time are not authorised. Students are expected to be onsite by 8:30am and in their form rooms by 8:40am each morning. Where students arrive late this will be marked on the register and three late marks to lesson or school per week will result in your child being kept after school for 30 minutes on Friday to make up for lost learning time.



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EDUCATION WITHOUT EXCEPTION

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Minutes late PER DAY during a school year	Days of learning lost in a school YEAR
5	4 days
10	7 days
15	11 days
20	14 days
25	21 days

I would like to thank you for your support with this crucial matter. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Moody by calling 01922 710257 or email jmoody@bloxwichacademy.co.uk

Yours sincerely

Mr A Seager
Headteacher

Miss J Moody
Head of Sixth Form
Assistant Headteacher



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