
Why does attendance matter?



- Good attendance is essential if your son is to make the most of his ability and perform well in examinations
- Absences could leave your son unsure about his work, finding it hard to catch up and he could become fearful of getting left behind
- Absences can disrupt friendship groups leaving students, on their return, to feel left out
- Statistics show that young people who truant are more likely to get into trouble or even danger
- Good attendance shows commitment and a desire to learn
- The first question asked when prospective employers or Colleges ask for references is frequently related to attendance and this often comes before questions about honesty or examination results

How can parents/carers help?

Parents/carers are legally obliged to make sure their son attends College regularly.

- Please do not take your son out of College for a holiday. Parents are liable to be fined for doing this
- Please do not make non-urgent medical appointments during the College day
- Telephone the College as early as possible if your son is absent or late
- Please send a note with your son on his return to College
- If you become aware of any reason why your son does not want to come to College, please contact either his Form Tutor or the College's Attendance Officer
- Please make sure we know your up-to-date contact details
- If you have any queries about your son's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact us
- **If we know about it, we can work with you to deal with it**



Attendance

Wyvern College



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What is good attendance?

Many of our students achieve 98 - 100% attendance. Most students regularly achieve 95 - 100% attendance.



If your **attendance is 95%** this means you are missing on average:

- 1 day per month
- 10 days / 2 College weeks a year

If your attendance is **90%** this means you are missing on average:

- half a day per week
- 2 days per month
- 4 College weeks a year
- From Year 7 to Year 11 you will miss **half a College year over the 5 years**

If your attendance is **80%** this means you are missing on average:



- 1 day per week
- 4 days per month
- 8 College weeks per year
- **One full year over the 5 years**

Attendance for Achievement

- One in five students miss 17 days a year and will drop at least one GCSE grade as a result
- There are 365 days in the year and you are only expected to attend 190 days at College
- That leaves 175 days for holidays, shopping, meeting friends, days out, non-urgent medical and dental treatment
- Most of what is missed in College can never properly be caught up
- In an exam you may be asked a question and it may be that the topic was discussed on a day when you were away
- If you are borderline C/D at GCSE and you can't answer that question then you could find you've dropped to D just because you missed that day and that lesson at College
- If you achieve 5A*-C GCSEs then you could increase your wages by 40%



How do we try to ensure good attendance?

- We emphasise to you the importance of good attendance
- We reward good attendance 
- We do not authorise absences without a good reason
- We try to ring your parents/carers if you are absent and we do not know why
- If attendance problems continue we meet with you and your parents/carers to discuss the way forward
- If your attendance still does not improve then we may refer you to the College's Education Welfare Officer (EWO)
- If meetings with the EWO still do not bring about an improvement in attendance then your parents/carers become liable to Penalty Notices and even prosecution