



NOTTINGHAM ACADEMY

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Dear Parent/Carer

Parents and Carers of a child have a legal responsibility to ensure their child receives a suitable education. This is achieved through regular attendance at school. At Nottingham Academy, we expect 97% attendance from all students.

Face-to-face education is important in helping pupils to fulfil their potential. During school time we believe pupils should be in class with their teachers and peers and enjoying all the benefits that brings. Being in school every day is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and their wider development.

Every moment in school counts, and days missed add up quickly. Lessons build on what children already know and missing one may make tomorrow's lessons more difficult. The table below shows the equivalent hours of lost learning based on their percentage attendance to the end of the last half term:

Current % Attendance	Equivalent number of days missed	Lost hours of learning
97%	3 days missed	15 hours of lost learning
90%	9 days missed	45 hours of lost learning
80%	14 days missed	70 hours of lost learning
70%	28 days missed	140 hours of lost learning

All students should be aware of their current percentage attendance. Parents can also view this on class charts or request a copy of their child's attendance certificate by emailing attendance@nottinghamacademy.org

The higher a pupil's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform in exams and formal assessments. Evidence shows that:

- Students with higher attainment at KS4 had lower levels of absence over the key stage compared to those with lower attainment.
- Among students with no absence over KS4, 83.7% achieved grades 9 to 4 in English and maths compared to 35.6% of pupils who were persistently absent (below 90%)

It is not too late to make a difference and this half term is a fresh start. Every attempt should be made to ensure you child is in school every day.

There are things you can do to improve your child's attendance:

- Talk to your child about the importance of them being in school and let them know how important you feel it is.

- If your child is unwell, try giving them medication before they leave for school. The following NHS guidance gives some advice on whether your child is too ill to attend <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>
- Avoid taking any holidays during term time. Family holidays in term time are not allowed in law and are unlikely to 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.
- Avoid medical appointments during school hours. If this is unavoidable ensure your child attends school either before or after the appointment.

If you are worried about your child/children's attendance and require further support, please contact the school's attendance team.

A reminder that if a child is genuinely unable to attend school, you will need to ring the school's attendance team every day of the absence on 0115 748 3380 or email attendance@nottinghamacademy.org

The Attendance Team

Ms N Brown – Deputy Principal Student Care
Mrs M Bradshaw – Attendance Officer (years 7 and 8)
Mrs K Winfield – Attendance Officer (years 9, 10 and 11)