



Sherburn High School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and I hope that 2023 is a happy and healthy year for all of Team Sherburn. As this time of year is often about making resolutions, I wanted to draw your attention to our resolve to improve students' attendance and punctuality -

#Attendance Matters:

Research proves that there is a very clear relationship between excellent school attendance and academic achievement. Year after year, the students with the best school attendance achieve the best results. We are passionate about providing students with the best possible life chances and as such, know that "attendance matters!"

All students at Sherburn High School are set an **attendance target of 96%** or above. Parents, and carers are therefore asked to support this by ensuring that their young person is in school every day of term.

The Department for Education's threshold at which a student is defined as '**persistently absent**' is **missing 10% or more of school across the year for whatever reason**. The Department for Education guidelines state that it is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure their children attend school regularly. The DfE has introduced statutory guidance to enforce regular school attendance where this becomes problematic, through legal measures and interventions.

At Sherburn High School, our Attendance Policy, which is in line with STAR MAT's as well as the Local Authority and Government Guidance, is to communicate with parents/carers as a form of early intervention so that we can work collaboratively to improve student attendance. The steps will involve a series of letters which will be sent if your child's attendance becomes a cause of concern.

What can you expect?

- Letter one- making parents/carers aware that attendance has fallen below 100%
- Letter two- making parents/carers aware that attendance has fallen below 96% and offer of support from school given by the Head of Year
- Letter three- making parents/carers aware that attendance has fallen below 90% (persistent absentee) and a meeting in school to be arranged with a Senior Leader to explore further support
- Letter four- making parents/carers aware that a more formal attendance route may be taken

Punctuality:

Being on time is not only an important life skill, but when students arrive late, they are missing out on learning!



Period one, can be one of the most important times of the day for our students as this is when we deliver our Personal Development curriculum. For students in Year 11, planned intervention also takes place during Period One.

Remember: Period one begins at 8:35 a.m.

Please note that arrival after the close of registration is classed as an unauthorised absence. Under the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 these absences can be used as evidence against you if legal action were to be considered by the Local Authority under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996

Our AM registers close at 9am, this means all students must be in school before this time in order to receive their AM mark. If a student arrives at the school after this time they will, therefore, receive an unauthorised absence.

And finally...

If you're a parent or carer of a student in Year 11, don't forget that next Wednesday is Year 11 Progress Evening; an opportunity to meet face-to-face to discuss PPE 2 results and the countdown to GCSEs. (It's also an opportunity to drop off your Good Luck cards). I look forward to seeing you there.

As always thank you for your on-going support,

Kind regards,

Miriam Oakley
Headteacher