



29 September 2023

Dear Parent

**RE: Attend to Achieve – the importance of good attendance at The Carlton Academy**

We have done an analysis of attendance and the results achieved by Year 11 students in the summer exams in 2022 and 2023. The pattern is clear: students who had an attendance of 95% or higher achieved almost a grade and a half higher across all subjects, than students from other schools and those with attendance lower than 95%. This clearly shows that good attendance dramatically affects the outcomes students achieve which will affect their future, including destinations on leaving school and future earnings.

We regard 'good' attendance as being at least 98% and we will as always reward those students that meet these thresholds through a range of activities and rewards during the school year.

Please send your child to school every day. If they are reluctant, challenge them, encourage them, remind them of the benefits of achieving well in their future lives. NHS guidance states that it is fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or cold. If students are ill during the school day, they should tell a member of staff and not contact parents themselves. Staff will act accordingly, and I assure you that if your child is ill and needs to go home, a member of our pastoral team will contact you.

**Persistent Absence**

As highlighted in the media recently there has been a significant increase in the percentage of students nationally that are considered persistently absent. This is defined as having an attendance below 90%. Persistent absence from school will have a significant impact on students' academic achievement.

This table shows how many days missed each half-term will make your child a PA student:

Half term	Number of days absent
Half-term 1	3 ½ days off school from September until October half-term holiday will make your child a PA student.
Half-term 1-2	7 days off school from September until the Christmas holiday will make your child a PA student.
Half term 1-3	10 days of absence from September until February half-term will make your child a PA student.
Half term 1-4	Half-term 1-3 12 ½ days of absence from September until the Easter holidays will make your child a PA student.
Half-term 1-5	15 ½ days of absence from September until May half-term will make your child a PA student.
Half-term 1-6	19 days of absence for the full academic year (September to end of summer term in July) will make your child a PA student.

Attendance at schools is legally compulsory and we have a responsibility, as an Academy to follow national guidelines. These guidelines ensure we challenge poor attendance and look to ways to encourage good attendance. In addition, schools, through local authorities may issue fixed notice penalties as well. We really want to avoid this course of action but in rare circumstances it may be necessary.

To report an absence, notify us of future medical appointments or if you are concerned about your child's attendance and would like to discuss support that is available, please email [attendance@theacademycarlton.org](mailto:attendance@theacademycarlton.org).

Yours sincerely,



Mr Melton  
Deputy Headteacher