

Summer Term Attendance Newsletter

Attendance, everyone's responsibility.

Useful Contacts:

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As we move into the final week of the school year, we are incredibly proud to share that our school has finished the year with an **overall attendance rate of 93%**, placing us **well above both the national and local averages**. Even more impressively, **95 of our pupils achieved 100% attendance this year** and **over 550 pupils** have maintained or improved their attendance this half term — a remarkable accomplishment that reflects the strength of Fulwood Academy.

This is a collective success, and we sincerely thank you, for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school regularly. Your commitment helps lay the foundation for each child's academic, emotional and social success.

The Importance of Regular Attendance

There is a strong and well-established link between regular school attendance and a child's long-term success:

Better Academic Outcomes

Students who attend school consistently are more likely to achieve higher grades, engage deeply in learning, and develop the study habits that lead to lasting success.

Improved Career Prospects

Research from the UK Department for Education shows that children with strong attendance are significantly more likely to go on to further education, apprenticeships, or employment.

Building Lifelong Skills

Strong attendance builds a foundation of discipline, responsibility, and resilience that supports children not only in school, but throughout life.

Our Attendance Goals

Next year, our goal is to maintain a 97% attendance rate across all year groups.

Let's work together to reach our goal by encouraging our children to attend school every day and on time.

Please find the link to our [Attendance Banding Newsletter](#) - This exciting initiative has had a significant positive impact on all our pupils at school.

Important Update – Changes to Education-Related Penalty Notices

In our previous newsletter you were made aware of the changes that the Department for Education announced regarding unauthorised absence during term time.

The changes to be aware of are as follows:

- **New Penalty Rates:** Penalty notices issued for offences that occur after 19th August 2024 are now charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. However, if paid within 21 days, the penalty can be reduced to £80.
- **Second Penalty Notices:** Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be charged at £160, to be paid within 28 days, with no option for a discounted rate.
- **Threshold for Penalty Notices:** The threshold for considering a penalty notice is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school-week period. This may include absences due to arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- **Limit on Penalty Notices:** A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period. For the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s), another course of action will need to be considered, such as prosecution or another attendance legal intervention.
- **Excessive Leave:** If a pupil is absent for more than 15 school days parent/carers will not have the option to pay a Fixed Penalty Notice, you will be prosecuted by the courts.

We understand that regular school attendance is crucial for your child's educational progress and overall well-being. These changes are being implemented to ensure consistency and to address unauthorised absences effectively.

Together we can help every child to succeed.