



7 October 2022

Dear parents and carers

Attendance and punctuality: In Form Time this week, we have been looking at attendance so far this academic year, with each child. As you know, we are looking for each child to have a minimum attendance at school of 97% over the course of the year. There have been 23 school days so far since the start of the school. Whilst the attendance percentage for a child can go up or down quite significantly at this early stage, we want to instil the strong habit of being in school every day and returning to the great habits in place before the pandemic.

Each child's attendance will be put into one of the bands below. The table makes clear the action that will be taken relating to each band. This will be reviewed on a weekly basis by Form Tutors and you will see it on the report home at the end of this half term also.

Attendance Categories			
Percentage	Category	Definition	Band
97-100%	Excellent	Attendance is excellent. Recognition given.	A
95-97%	Acceptable	Attendance is acceptable.	B
93-95%	Below Expected	Attendance needs to improve. Form Tutors intervene to motivate pupils to reach their target.	C
90-93%	At risk	Attendance is at risk of falling below 90%. This is when a pupil is classed as persistently absent. The Head of Year will intervene.	D
80-89%	Support	HOY and Pastoral Support will intervene to improve attendance as the pupil is persistently absent from school. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents will be notified of concerns. Meetings will be held to identify issues and support needed. Penalty notices may be issued to parents. 	E
51-79%	Intervention	HOY, Pastoral Support and Attendance Enforcement officers will intervene to improve attendance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent meetings will be held Penalty notices may be issued to parents Enforcement Officers may be deployed to improve attendance. 	F
Under 50%	Severely Absent	Attendance is a serious concern and requires individualised plans to improve. Attendance Enforcement will work closely with school and other social care agencies to improve attendance.	G

Year 7 Church Service: All students in Year 7 attended Lowton St Mary's Church on Wednesday to take part in our formal Welcome Service. Our School Chaplain led a wonderful service on the theme of 'hope'. Despite the rain, it was wonderful for the year group to gather in church – the first time this has been possible in the last three years. Their behaviour was impeccable and respectful. This is an important collective part of our Christian distinctiveness and our partnership with local churches.

Charitable giving (food bank): As you know, we have been doing a school-wide collection for The Foodbank. We are grateful for the contributions given so far and know that it is 'above and beyond' in your family finances. We are asking, if possible, that each student brings in at least one item, more if you can afford and are willing. The Foodbank urgently need **toiletries and feminine hygiene products, household cleaning and laundry products, nappies (size 5 and 6) and toilet roll**. The items they regularly need stock of is packet mash potato, jam, biscuits, ready-made custard, juice boxes, treats and snacks. They do not need beans, soups, pasta and they no longer give out sugar.

Thank you for your ongoing support at all times. Working together we can achieve great things for your child.

Yours sincerely
Kieran Larkin
Headteacher

CARING, LEARNING AND SUCCEEDING