



19th April 2024

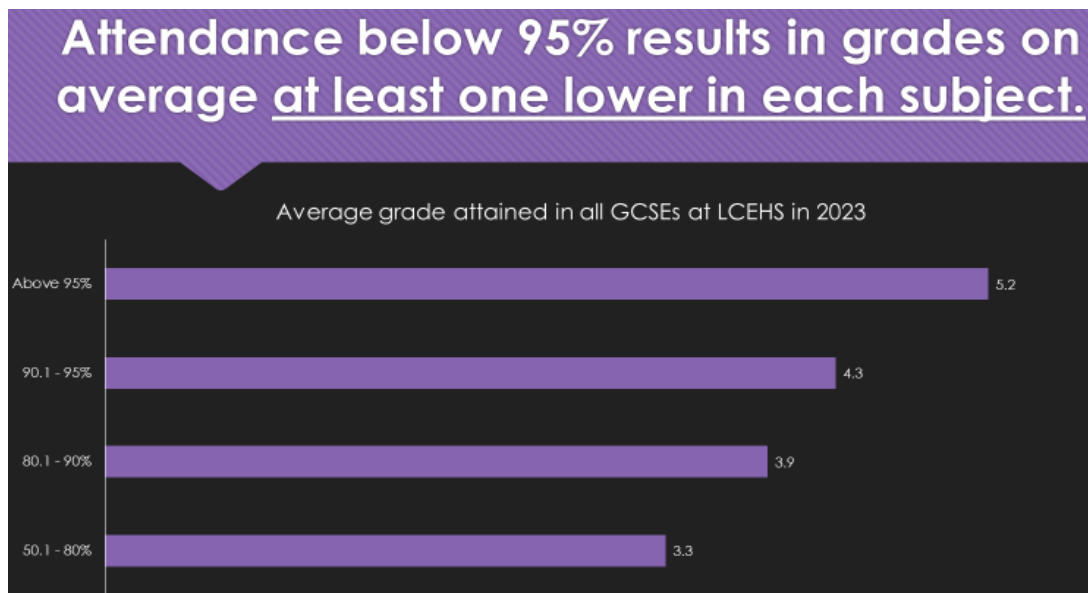
Dear parents and carers,

High Attendance Matters

As we start the Summer Term, I am starting with a reminder about the *importance* and *impact* of high attendance.

We expect students to have at least 97% attendance – and you will know from the recent school report your child received that this is 'Band A' in our attendance categorisation.

The chart below shows the impact of attendance on GCSE grades last year at school. Any current student not in Band A or Band B for attendance will, most likely, underachieve in their exams by at least one grade in every subject.



By Easter, 48% of all students had an attendance of 95% or more since September. This means slightly more than half are currently attending well-below our expectations and are, for each further day missed, falling further behind their peers and underachieving more and more. They will most likely under achieve in their GCSEs.

Schools in the Wigan Borough have been working alongside the local authority in relation to Education Penalty Notices. Parents may be fined if their child's attendance at school falls below an acceptable level.

Attached is an advisory letter to parents and carers outlining the criteria for EPN fines. If your child meets the criteria relating to unauthorised absences you will be eligible for a fine. Further information can be found on the school's website where you will also find the local authority's Code of Conduct relating to EPNs.

If you have any questions regarding your child's attendance or the criteria for EPNs please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year.

Yours faithfully

Kieran Larkin
Headteacher

CARING, LEARNING AND SUCCEEDING