

Attendance Special



Please help us achieve the best for your child!

This week's publication focuses on attendance. You will not be surprised to hear that your child's chances of exam success are absolutely linked to their attendance to school. Many parents believe that attendance of 90% is good, surely getting 90% in anything is high, a test maybe, but if you look at 90% attendance spread over 10 years – that's 1 year of schooling missed up until the age of 16.

The government has analysed the impact of attendance on pupils chances of exam success.

Your child's chance of achieving A*-C grades at GCSE

- With 95% attendance = 77% chance
- With 94% attendance = 74% chance
- With 93% attendance = 60% chance
- With 92% attendance = 53% chance
- With 91% attendance = 44% chance



The average attendance at Secondary schools nationally is about 95%. 95% is deemed by many schools, including ours, to be good attendance.

Approximately 60% of our pupils fall into the above 95% attendance bracket and will statistically have the best chance at acing their exam results.



Attendance (%)	Number of days absent from school
98	4 days
95	10 days = 2 weeks
90	20 days = 4 weeks
85	30 days = 6 weeks
80	40 days = 8 weeks

Do you know your child's attendance?

You can call Main Reception at any time to get this information. You can also find your child's most recent attendance published in their last school report. It is often a surprise to parents to find their child's attendance is below 90%.

ATTENDANCE:	71.6 %
UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE:	26
NUMBER OF LATE MARKS:	0
NUMBER OF ACHIEVEMENT POINTS:	2
NUMBER OF BEHAVIOUR POINTS:	0
TUTOR:	MR H. GALE

Persistently Absent

The government highlights any pupil with attendance below 90% as a persistent absent pupil, rightly so if you consider:

- 90% attendance = ½ a day missed every week.
- 90% attendance over 1 year = 4 missed weeks.
- 90% attendance over 5 years = ½ a year missed.

This information is collected annually by the government. When I download pupils information from the schools information database, these

concerns are flagged for pupils at risk of underperforming in their GCSE examinations.

1 days absence here and there may not appear to be much, but if you look at this in hours that's 5 hours of lesson time lost per day. These hours can quickly add up and before you know it there are big gaps in your child's learning.

Attendance Tips For Parents

I thought it might be helpful to put together some simple strategies for supporting attendance that you may wish to consider:

Let children know that good attendance is important:

1. Attendance is a parent and pupil responsibility. Let your child know that you think attending school daily is important. Show them you are interested in their school activities and tell them that you want them to do well in school.
2. Do not provide inappropriate excuses for your child to miss school. Do not let them take time off from school for minor ailments – particularly those which would not prevent you from going to work.
3. Set good examples and enforce rules. Speak well of the school and support school staff.
4. Make a contract with your child to improve his/her attendance. Reward positive improvements.
5. Do not let your child persuade you into making an excuse for him/her. Don't give up. Reward good attendance.

Establish a Routine:

1. Set a regular bedtime schedule. Age should be a factor.
2. Get proper rest and go to bed early.
3. Avoid computers, computer games or phones late into the evening which can over-stimulate the brain.
4. Make sure homework is done on time. Children can be apprehensive if homework is due in and has not been completed.

Take care of their physical and emotional wellbeing:

1. Think carefully about your child's diet. Fruit and vegetables are the best way to maintain good physical health and therefore attendance to school.
2. Drink lots of water, avoid fizzy drinks.
3. Exercise is vital for both physical and mental wellbeing. Pupils who are more physically active attend better.

Worried about your child's attendance?

Mr Luft is our Attendance Officer. He can be contacted at the Academy.



Science – Well done! Stars of Week



British Values - Home Learning in Art



Freya miller - Crown with nuts and bolts



Eve Bunney - Cake

World Book Day

What a great turnout in the Library to celebrate World Book Day. Pupils were able to take part in two games and Mrs Senior launched several new books for the Library which she had received free from the Book Trust for Schools.

Game one was a simple guess who reads where picture game. Teachers and some famous authors gave pictures of their favourite reading place, pupils then made guesses.

The winners were:

Jessica Shergold	8D
Eve Bunney	8A
Mabel Bradley	8B
Maddy Fahrnich	8C
Jasmine Antunavic-Fry	8A

The second game was a quiz of 18 questions all based on popular library titles and the books were all available in the library for pupils to find the answers. Pupils worked in teams of 4 to find the answers.

The winners were:

Joint 1st place:

Books R Us

Maddy Fahrnich	8C
Ayesha Khutan	8B
Freya Miller	8C
Daisy Clark	8B

Eric 7th

Jasmine Antunavic-Fry	8A
Jessica Shergold	8D
Eve Bunney	8A
Mabel Bradley	8B

In 2nd place:

Bacon

Elise Hurst	7B
Tamsin Johnson	7B
Mia True	7B
Jake King	7B



Support at the Academy



SARUM
ACADEMY

If you are feeling worried
or have a question...

Speak to...
Form Tutor
Any staff member
Pupil Services

Others who can help...



Mr Loft
Head of
Year 7



**Miss de
Courcy**
Head of Lower School



Mr Birkett
Head of
Upper School



Mr Jones
Head of
Sixth Form



Mrs Fatcher
Safeguarding
Officer
(Drop-in Thursday
lunchtimes)



Stacey Sapsford
Thrive worker
(Drop-in
Monday & Friday
lunchtimes)



Tiff Ferris
School Nurse
(Drop-in
Wednesday
lunchtimes)



Jen & Ali
The Bridge
(Drop-in Tuesday
lunchtimes)

