

8th October 2024

Re: Term Time Holidays

Dear Parents/Carers

Attendance at Wodensborough Ormiston Academy continues to be one of our highest priorities – we know that if our pupils are in school, they are safe and have the best chance of succeeding.

The Department for Education (DfE) recently published their findings on the link between absence and attainment at key stage 4. The findings show that **there is a very clear link between poor attendance at school and lower academic achievement.**

Whilst we appreciate the fact that holidays during school term times are much cheaper, the impact on your child's education could have a negative impact on their progress and attainment and therefore their future career aspirations.

While an attendance figure of 90% may not sound very low, it significantly reduces a child's chance of achieving 5 or more 9-5 grades at GCSE from 81% to around 57%.

A child who averages 80% attendance during their secondary school career effectively misses one whole year of education and will massively reduce their chances of securing good outcomes at the end of Year 11.

Even for high-achieving students', poor attendance has a negative impact on their grades. It has been shown that missing just 17 days of school reduces final GCSE grades by one level across all subjects.

The impact absence has on your child's attendance rate	
Total number of days off in a school year	Attendance rate %
0	100%
10	95%
20	90%
30	85%
40	80%

How attendance affects life chances
Very Good chance of 5 or more Grades 4-9
Good Chance of 5 or more Grades 4-9
Less than 50% chance of 5 or more Grades 4-9
Less than 35% chance of 5 or more Grades 4-9
Less than 30% chance of 5 or more Grades 4-9



We ask you as parents/carers to continue to work with us collectively to ensure that your child's attendance does not become a barrier to them receiving the best possible outcomes. Please consider the impact on your child's education when considering whether to book a holiday during term time or not.

Please contact me at the Academy if you would like to discuss this letter or would like any support in helping to improve your child's attendance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'LM' with a flourish.

Leigh Moore

Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JC' with a flourish.

Jayne Cooper

Senior Leader: Attendance, Engagement & Admissions