

08 July 2024

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I hope this communication finds you well.

I am writing to inform you about some changes in attendance legislation for the next academic year.

The main changes are summarised below:

- All students are expected to have attendance above 97%.
- U Codes for late arrival will go into effect from 08:45. Any child arriving after that time will be marked absent for the morning.
- It is a parent/carer's responsibility to contact school every day that the child is absent.
- If your child has 10 sessions or 5 days of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period, the Local Authority will consider issuing a penalty notice fine.
- No term time leave can be granted. It is subject to a fine from the Local Authority. After the second fine, the Local Authority will proceed straight to prosecution.
- The Local Authority are increasing term time fines to £160 per parent per child, reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days for the first offence. The 2nd time there is no option for a reduced fine. A third offence will result in a direct prosecution for the Local Authority. This period is measured for 3 years.

We know that our students achieve well when they are in school. Students with over 80% attendance last year achieved in line with national expectations. They must arrive at the academy before 08:15 every day, ready to learn.

It is also worth noting that we teach our curriculum all the way up to the end of the summer term so any absences now will create gaps in student learning. All students need to be in the academy in every lesson until the end of term.

The final day of term for students is Thursday 18 July when we will be celebrating Culture Day and they will be permitted to wear cultural dress or clothes suitable for a professional environment (no short tops/skirt/shorts) containing the colours of the flag of their country of birth or nationality.

If you have any questions around attendance, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to help.

All calendar dates for the academic year can be found on our academy website: www.dixonsba.com.

Kind regards



Mrs R Fidler
Principal

