



Bexhill
Academy

ATTENDANCE



INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

We Can Only Teach Those Who Attend
- *Attendance Is Your Independence* -

Punctual and regular school attendance is an essential requirement for successful learning from the time a child starts school

For further information please contact:
Nikki.Burnett@bexhillhigh.org

If you need this booklet in large print or in an alternative version, please contact Tracey Holden, our Parent Communications Officer
Email: communications@bexhillhigh.org

ATTENDANCE FACTS

95 – 100% Very Good. Student Issued With VIVO Points

If your child attends school **100%** they will be able to make the best of all the opportunities available to them.

Children who attend above **90%** are more likely to gain 5 or more A-C GCSEs or equivalent qualifications.

90 – 94.9% Below Expectations

If your child has only **90%** attendance over the whole 11 years at school, they will have missed over one year's education!

91.1% attendance = missing 17 days of school in one year.

Missing 17 days a year also means dropping 1 GCSE grade (on average)

90% or below attendance = A PERSISTENT ABSENTEE

Poor attendance like this will have a serious impact on education and life choices.

**Contact Will Be Made With The Pastoral Manager
Under 90% Problems With Attendance?**

Children with less than **85%** attendance are unlikely to gain 5 A*- C GCSEs.

82.1% attendance = missing 34 days of school in one year.

If your child has **80%** attendance over the whole 11 years at school, they will miss over **TWO** years education

INFORMATION

Medical And Dental Appointments Should Be Made Outside Of School Hours

ILLNESS

If your child is likely to be off school for more than two days, please contact the school as there may be work your child is able to complete at home so they do not fall too far behind.

BE SAFE

Truancy/unsupervised absences can put students at risk. Persistent absentees are statistically more likely to become teenage parents, unemployed or homeless or to engage in crime and drug abuse.

Exceptional Circumstances

From September 2013 changes to legislation mean that schools will no longer be able to grant any term time holidays.

The amendments make clear that Headteachers/Principals may not permit any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Parents requesting time off due to exceptional circumstances should apply in writing at least four weeks prior to the absence.

Please refer to Attendance Policy for further information

Year 11 Prom

In order to be invited to the Year 11 prom, students must have an attendance of 95% or more. The only exceptions to this will be for medical circumstances where medical evidence is available to support the absences.

The Law

The Education Act 1996 requires parents to ensure their children of compulsory school age receive efficient full-time education.

The law says that parent/carers whose children of compulsory school age are absent from school without good reason are committing an offence.

The Local Education Authority can issue a fixed penalty notice for unauthorised absence.

Unauthorised absence includes:

- Arriving after the register has closed
- All day dental/medical appointments
- Birthdays
- Shopping – even for school clothes
- Family holidays
- Looking after sick relatives or younger children

You need to be aware that, although you may provide a reason for absence, it is the school which decides if the absence is recorded as authorised or unauthorised.

Poor Attendance And Punctuality

Students who are frequently late or who have poor attendance will find that they will not be asked to represent the school in either sporting, musical or other such activities.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE ON THEIR REPORT

Practicalities

- You need to make attendance a priority.
- It is the parents' responsibility to contact the school to report any absence.
- Tel **01424 735516**
- **First Call System:** If a student is absent in the morning and the school has not received an explanation, we will telephone or text home.
- You should send a note into school upon your child's return, explaining the reason for absence.
- Your child should return to school as soon as he/she is able to do so.
- Persistent lateness will result in an hour detention. Parents will be informed of this by letter.
- If you fear your child has not attended school, telephone the school so a check can be made.
- If you have ANY concerns about attendance, please do not hesitate to contact the school.