



Ref:EEM/AttendanceY11/lw  
27 Sept23

Dear Parent/Carer

### **The Importance of Attendance to School**

As your child has now embarked upon Year 11, their final year at The Link Academy, I wanted to write to you to share with you, some key information about the impact of attendance to school on GCSE grades.

Last academic year, Year 11 learners, in some cases, had poor attendance to school. When their GCSE grades were analysed in Mathematics, of the learners with poor attendance only 13% went on to achieve a Grade 5 or higher in their GCSE. In contrast, when considering learners with good attendance at 96% or above, 100% achieved at least a Grade 5! In English Language, the pattern is similar, with only 23% of learners with poor attendance achieving the Grade 5 pass or above, whereas 73% of the learners with greater than 96% attendance achieved a Grade 5 or higher.

Attendance that is lower than 90% equates to a child missing half a day of their education every single week. Attendance that is lower than 95% equates to a child missing half a day of their education every fortnight. So, although 95% attendance looks high, it is actually a significant proportion of lesson time that is being missed consistently.

This academic year, learners have been told that they will only be able to access rewards trips, if their attendance is 96% or above. As I am sure you can agree, we are working to prepare our young people for the world of work later in their lives. Attendance to work as an adult would be deemed a disciplinary matter and therefore it is vital that we encourage young people to get into good routines now.

There are several rewards initiatives in school for rewarding good attendance, including weekly 100% attendance rewards. We would like your child to be able to access these rewards over the coming weeks and months. The ultimate reward will be excellent GCSE grades at the end of Year 11! Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully

Mrs E Edwards-Morgan  
Principal



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