



Nether Stowe School

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Dear Parent/Carer

Attendance

As you will be aware, there is a direct link between good attendance at school and academic progress. Department of Education research shows that, if a pupil improves their attendance by just 1%, it has a significant impact on their potential achievement, progress employability and earning power. To put it simply: for every 17 days of school missed, means a decrease, on average, of one GCSE grade.

The school target for attendance is 95%. The table below outlines what this means in relation to the number of days and lessons missed over the course of a school year.

Attendance %	Days Missed	Weeks Missed	Lessons Missed
100%	0	0	0
95%	10	2	50
90%	19	4	100
85%	29	6	150

How you can help to improve your child's attendance:

- Speak to your child so that they understand the importance of good attendance and the good impact this has on their future progress and prospects.
- Help your child by establishing routines around bedtime, uniform and equipment.
- Only keep them off school if it is absolutely necessary.
- Make sure you communicate with the school early about any concerns or issues.
- Discuss your child's lessons and timetable. Be positive about school and support our aims.
- If they must have a medical appointment, try to organise it to take place at the start or the end of the day: this means your child can still get a morning or afternoon attendance mark.
- Do not arrange family holidays, routine appointments etc. during school time – there are 175 days in the school year where holidays or other commitments can take place.

Of course, we also recognise that a significant number of pupils have regular, good attendance, and we will be implementing a number of rewards and incentives to encourage this to continue.

I thank you for your continuing support in our drive to improve standards.

Yours sincerely,

Miss D Sullivan
Senior Assistant Headteacher
Behaviour, Welfare & Safeguarding

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