



Dear Parent and Carers,

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

Over the last two weeks our Year 11 students have begun their GCSE exams, beginning with speaking exams in French, Spanish and German and now the practical exams for Photography, Art and Graphics. We are proud of the way they have conducted themselves but also of the support shown by our younger students. To support Year 11 in their final days before GCSE exams in the hall, their teachers run booster sessions. This means that there are sometimes changes to rooms and that for odd lessons children in years 7-10 might not have their normal teachers. We have explained to our students that this minimal disruption will benefit them all when they arrive at this point in Year 11 and appreciate the respect that they show to each other during exam periods.

**Year 8 Parents Evening** is coming up on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024**. Year 8 Parents will have received a separate letter about this confirming how to make their appointments.

**Attendance.** If your child's attendance is falling, it's essential to address the issue promptly. Here are some steps you can take:

1. **Communication with School:** Reach out to school and discuss the situation with their teacher, Year team or attendance officer. They can provide insights into any specific challenges your child might be facing.
2. **Identify the Cause:** Try to understand why your child's attendance is declining. Some common reasons include health issues, bullying, academic struggles, or social anxiety. Identifying the cause will help you address it effectively.
3. **Health Check:** Ensure your child is physically well. Frequent illnesses can lead to missed school days. Consult a doctor if needed.
4. **Emotional Well-Being:** Pay attention to your child's emotional well-being. Are they feeling stressed, anxious, or overwhelmed? Address any emotional concerns and consider seeking professional help if necessary.
5. **School Support:** Work with the school to create a supportive environment. We may offer additional resources, counselling, or accommodations if your child is struggling academically or socially.
6. **Attendance Plan:** Collaborate with the school to develop an attendance improvement plan. This could involve setting goals, rewards for consistent attendance, and regular check-ins.
7. **Positive Reinforcement:** Praise your child when they attend school regularly. Positive reinforcement can motivate them to improve their attendance.

Remember that every child is unique, and the approach may vary based individual circumstances. Be patient, empathetic, and supportive as we work together to improve attendance.

**Form time** - The form time focus for next week is "Ready".

**Votes for schools** - This week students have been voting on "Do we take cyber crime seriously?" If you would like to continue this discussion with your child, please click [here](#) for further resources.

**PSHE Topics** for next week are.

Year 7 – how can I be safe near water?

Year 8 – careers.



Year 9 – what does The Cabinet do.

Year 10 – risk of sexual acts.

Year 11 - exam revision.

**Monday 06<sup>th</sup> May is a bank holiday so the academy will be closed but will reopen on Tuesday as normal.**

Have a lovely weekend.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Williams', written in a cursive style.

**Kate Williams**

**Principal**