



Outwood Academy Kirkby
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Head of School: Mr Mark Golden

Friday 4th April 2025

Dear Parent / Carer,

As we are nearing our Easter Holidays and our Year 11 students are quickly heading towards sitting their GCSE examinations, we felt this would be the perfect opportunity to highlight the exceptional effort that has been put into raising student attendance at Outwood Academy Kirkby this academic year (2024/25).

So far this academic year, attendance at Outwood Academy Kirkby has been 87.8%. Whilst as a community this still leaves us with plenty of room for improvement moving forward (97% attendance is considered 'Good' - this means having no more than 5 days off a year), this is a 5.2% increase when compared with the same point last year, which is an impressive uplift. Both students and parents have made efforts to drive improvement in attendance at the academy. We would like to take this opportunity to thank both our students and parents for their combined efforts and increasing commitment to attendance at the academy.

Statistics show that good attendance directly increases your child's potential to achieve. On average nationally, students with over 95% attendance achieve GCSE results at least one grade higher than those with attendance under 95%. Lower attendance hurts a student's work performance and academic progress which in turn reflects in their examination results and future life chances. So both student and parent commitment to maximising attendance will play a key role in increasing life chances for our students.

Within the academy, we are continually working to raise attendance profiles. We now have an attendance-focused tutor time and all students are given attendance stickers to put in their planners to help them take accountability for and understand their own attendance. Furthermore, we are working hard to recognise and praise students who have good attendance and/or strive to improve their attendance using regular praise incentives within school. The attendance team regularly runs competitions and prize draws, and attendance prizes are won weekly by students from all year groups, which are recognised via the academy's television screens. We will continue to celebrate those students who prioritise attendance - keep an eye out for our upcoming Eggcellent Easter Egg competition with various prizes!

We are thrilled to announce that 73 outstanding students have successfully joined our prestigious 100% Club for this half term. These exceptional individuals have maintained 100% attendance and accumulated an impressive number of praise points, while having no behaviour points recorded against them. Their commitment to excellence reflects the core values of an Outwood student: be safe, be respectful, and be responsible. To honour their achievements, each student will receive a certificate recognising their



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dedication, a prize as a token of our appreciation, and the opportunity to celebrate their accomplishments at our upcoming celebration event. This event promises to be a memorable occasion where we will acknowledge their hard work and inspire others to strive for similar success.

As always, Outwood Academy Kirkby will support families and students in maintaining/achieving improved attendance in any practical way we can. If you would like further information or to discuss a student's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact the attendance team at 01623 455925 or attendance@kirkby.outwood.com. In the meantime, please accept our thanks for your continued support in improving attendance at Outwood Academy Kirkby.

Yours faithfully

Mr J Morrin
Assistant Principal