



THE WELLS ACADEMY

INTEGRITY • RESILIENCE • AMBITION

27th March 2025

Dear Families

Attendance Award

As you know, we have been working incredibly hard this year to improve student attendance. I am delighted to say that we have made exceptional progress in this area. In fact, we are now performing better than most schools in the country.

Because of this success, earlier this week, I was honoured to be asked by the Department for Education to host a group of education leaders from across the region. They came to Wells to learn from our approach and see how we have worked with you, our students' families, to create a strong culture of attendance.

As part of this event, we were thrilled to be presented with an Inclusive Attendance Award, which is a testament to the incredible effort of our entire academy community. We also received some valuable feedback, which I'd like to share with you below:

- *'The school has an exceptional child-centred ethos, creating a positive, nurturing, and inclusive environment where every child feels valued and supported.'*
- *'Behaviour across the school is outstanding – both in lessons and during break and lunchtimes.'*
- *'The school has also built strong relationships with parents and the wider community, ensuring families feel valued and involved in their children's education. Leaders have a deep understanding of the families they work with and tailor their approaches to meet the needs of all.'*

Attendance is absolutely critical to student success. Research shows that students with 95% attendance are **twice as likely** to achieve a Grade 5 (a strong pass) in their GCSE Maths and English compared to those with 90% attendance. This is a significant difference and highlights just how important it is for students to be 'In School, On Time' every single day.

While we have made fantastic progress, there is still work to do. We have had days where our whole school attendance has exceeded 95%, but our next goal is to break 96% in a day. I am confident we can achieve this and I would really appreciate your support in ensuring that your child is 'In School, On Time' for the rest of this term. Our final day of term is Friday 4th March 2025 and it will be a standard school day, finishing at 3pm.

We have some fantastic opportunities coming up for all year groups and students who miss school are missing out, not just on lessons, but on fantastic wider opportunities. Please continue to work with us to support attendance and let's see if we can reach that 96% target together! Thank you, as always, for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mr G Coles
Principal



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