



THE WELLS ACADEMY

INTEGRITY • RESILIENCE • AMBITION

16th February 2024

Dear Families

Attendance concerns

Over the past weeks, I've closely observed student attendance and am writing to you today to address a concerning matter. On the final Friday of term, our academy's attendance stood at 79.88%, indicating that over 20% of our student body failed to attend and missed out on a day of valuable learning. Since the start of the academic year, our attendance sits at 89.18% which is below the national average.

I understand the challenges posed by the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic and I appreciate the collaborative effort of many families to ensure their children attend school each day. However, the number of students with poor attendance remains alarmingly high. It is crucial to recognise the direct correlation between attendance and educational outcomes. Simply put, **students who do not attend regularly face difficulties in passing exams and, as a result, have significantly reduced life chances.** These students end up earning less money.

As an academy, we have invested significant resources, staffing and expertise to address this issue, but we must work together. You, as individual families play a crucial role, and I urge you to accept the responsibility to ensure your children are in school consistently. Punctuality is equally vital, with the academy gates opening at 8:20 each morning. Students arriving after 8:30 are considered late. We hold students at Wells to high standards and expect them to arrive on time.

For Year 11 students, who are only 45 academy days away from their GCSE examinations, punctuality and attendance are of utmost importance.

Further communication regarding attendance will follow, but **I encourage families facing challenges or barriers to contact the academy urgently.** If you would like support to improve your child's attendance, please email us at kleaper@thewellsacademy.org or phone the academy office on 0115 748 3390. Together, we can overcome these obstacles and ensure a brighter future for our students.

I look forward to welcoming all students back to the academy next week on **Monday 19th February 2024 at 8.20am sharp.**

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Yours sincerely

Mr G Coles
Principal



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Principal Mr G Coles



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