

Ref: KH/JC/Attendance

18th December 2023



Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

Attendance Matters

Dear Parents/ Carers

As the academic year progresses and we enter winter months, I wanted to take a moment to highlight an essential aspect that significantly impacts your child's educational journey.

Attendance plays a pivotal role in achieving success, particularly when it comes to GCSE grades. Each day of school presents valuable opportunities for learning, interaction, and growth. Consistent attendance ensures that your child maximizes these opportunities, gaining a deeper understanding of the subjects and building essential skills required for their GCSE exams.

The correlation between attendance and academic performance is undeniable. Students who attend classes regularly have a better grasp of the curriculum, enabling them to stay on track with coursework, participate actively in discussions, and seek clarification on challenging topics. This engagement directly translates into improved grades and overall academic achievement. Below you will see the correlation between attendance and academic performance for our 2023 GCSE cohort.

Attendance	Average Pupil Progress
95-100%	+0.92
90-94%	+0.61
80-89%	+0.08
0-79%	-1.82

Pupil progress is the measure used to show how pupils have performed against their targets e.g. if a pupil has an average target grade of a grade 5 and achieved a progress score of +0.95 then the pupil would on average achieved one grade above across all subjects. The same goes for a negative progress score. If a pupil achieved a progress score of -0.95 then on average they would have achieved one grade below their target. As you can see, attendance matters.

Furthermore, consistent attendance cultivates discipline and responsibility in students. It instils a sense of commitment and dedication, qualities that are not only crucial during their academic years but also in their future endeavours.



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I understand that circumstances may arise that could lead to occasional absences. However, ensuring regular attendance, whenever possible, significantly enhances your child's chances of success in their GCSE BTEC outcomes.

As partners in your child's education, your encouragement and support regarding attendance are invaluable.

Your sincerely,

Mrs K Hibbs
Headteacher



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