



CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

Aspiration, Character & Excellence

Tel: 01702 354441

Headteacher:

Mr J Foster BSc Hons NPQH

September 2022

Dear parent/carer

Re: School Attendance

One of the most important roles we have as a school is to ensure your child has the skills and qualifications to be a successful adult. Having looked at all of our year 11 pupils last year and nationally, it is an absolute fact that poor attendance is a key factor on school grades and subsequent life chances moving forward. We all need an unswerving focus that your child attends school every day. With this in mind, I must remind you of the following expectations so you can ensure this is a priority:

- 1) **It is a parent's legal duty to send their child to school regularly** and our legal duty to ensure an education is available. Children and young people have suffered considerable and repeated interruptions to their education over the COVID-19 pandemic and we firmly believe that it is our duty to ensure this is not the case for the 2022-23 academic year.
- 2) **It is advised that pupils with minor ailments can – and should – attend school** (coughs/colds, sore throat, headaches or stomach aches should not prevent your child from attending school). In line with government advice, we will not routinely authorise absences due to minor ailments and encourage you to ensure your child attends school regardless.
- 3) **Improving attendance is the responsibility of every party involved** – schools, pupils, the local authority and parents/carers. At Chase High School we will be working in close collaboration with our pupils and their parents, the local authority and our attendance partners 'Aquinas', to make sure that none of our pupils misses out unnecessarily. In turn, we ask that parents and carers work with us at an early stage to ensure that their children have uninterrupted access to their education and any potential barriers to this are overcome together.
- 4) **Avoid taking your children out of school during term time.** School is closed for thirteen weeks of the year. You should plan your holidays within school holiday periods. Requests will very rarely be granted and holidays taken without authorisation will likely result in the issue of fixed term penalty notices by the local authority.

If you have concerns about your child attending, you are welcome to discuss this with us and we will work with you to alleviate these concerns and help to remove any obstacles in your child's path.

I look forward to a productive and successful year ahead as we all work together for the young people in our care.

Yours faithfully

Mr J Foster
Headteacher



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Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff

Chase High School is proud to be part of the Discovery Educational Trust