



The Elizabethan Academy

Attendance Newsletter - December 2024

Dear parent/carer,

As the dark nights draw in and the weather becomes colder we wanted to thank you for your support in continuing to support our students to get into school. We have an array of Christmas celebrations planned for the final week and cannot wait to share the joy and engage in the festivities!

We know that as we enter into winter and more time is spent indoors, illness can spread. The NHS have provided the following guidance on identifying if your child is too ill for school '[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)'



We also know how important it is for our young people to protect their mental health over the winter period. Young minds provide lots of guidance and support for young people, including tips on keeping happy and healthy in winter '[Mental Health Support For Young People | YoungMinds](#)'



During the winter months we often dream of sunshine and time away. You may have seen the debates in Parliament around holidays during term time. During the debate, MPs questioned whether school performance suffers as a result of taking term-time holidays. An analysis undertaken by the office of the children's commissioner in 2023 showed that any amount of holiday during term time is associated with lower GCSE results, and the most recent census results highlighted that yearly holidays and an average number of medical appointments/ sickness (equating to an attendance figure of around 80%) means a whole school year is lost from years 7 - 11! Food for thought!

We thank you for your continued support and hope all our young people have an enjoyable break!

ATTENDANCE COUNTS

0 - 1.5 DAYS OFF	2 - 7.5 DAYS OFF	8 - 13 DAYS OFF	13.5 - 19 DAYS OFF	19.5+ DAYS OFF
100% To 99%	98.99% To 96%	95.99% To 93%	92.99% To 90%	Under 90%
Accessing all opportunities !	Minimal learning missed	Risk of under achievement	Severe risk of under achievement	Serious risk of under achievement
	Missing up to 38 lessons a year	Missing up to 65 lessons a year!	Missing up to 95 lessons a year!	Missing at least 100 lessons a year!
	Independent research shows that students who have less than 7 days off a year have a much higher likelihood of securing good outcomes.	Students at the Elizabethan who fell into this category last year were 15% less likely to achieve 5 GCSE grades than those who attended above 96%.	Students at the Elizabethan who fell into this category last year were 21% less likely to achieve 5 GCSE grades than those who attended above 96%	Research shows that only 38% of students who are persistently absent gain 5 or more GCSEs.



If you have any concerns about your child's attendance please reach out to their Tutor, Head of House and our attendance team. It is only by working together that we can support each individual to succeed.

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