



# CAMPSMOUNT

15<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Dear Parents,

## Student Attendance

The Department for Education have recently published guidance on improving school attendance. We will use this guidance to renew our policies and procedures over the next half-term and will share them with you in due course. It is vital that attendance is embedded in our Academy culture and that improving attendance is everyone's business and this includes you, our parents.

Excellent attendance is one of the most important factors to contribute to your child's success and is essential to get the most out of their school experience. It has a direct link to attainment and progress, gives a sense of belonging in the school community and promotes social development. Achieving at school builds a child's self-esteem, as well as enhancing their future prospects. In addition to this, spending time with school staff teaches a student about society's expectations with regards to behaviour and how to communicate with people, preparing them for adult life. It is therefore really important that our students attend school regularly and we will continue to drive whole school attendance towards our aspirational target of 96%.

As parents we ask that you make attendance at school a priority. Please talk about the importance of attending school every day and make that the expectation. Ensure that students get to school on time and prepared for the day. Try not to schedule dental or medical appointments during the school day and do not arrange family holidays during term time. Please don't let your child stay at home unless they are truly sick. If your child feels ill in the morning with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, slight cough or period pain, please administer them with an appropriate dose of pain relief medication and send them in to school.

Parents have a legal obligation to ensure that their child attends school regularly. Should your child's attendance drop below the school target of 96%, help and support will be offered. If attendance doesn't significantly improve following this support (without a justifiable reason), the parent could be guilty of an offence under [section 444 Education Act 1996](#).

| Attendance Ladder |      |                           |
|-------------------|------|---------------------------|
| 0 days            | 100% | Perfect                   |
| 4 days            | 98%  | Impressive                |
| 7 days            | 96%  | Good                      |
| 9 days            | 95%  | Nearly There              |
| 11 days           | 94%  | Needs to Improve          |
| 20 days           | 90%  | Concerns                  |
| 30 days           | 85%  | Serious Concern           |
| 80 days           | 60%  | At Risk of Severe Absence |
| 100 days          | 50%  | Severe Absence            |

If your child currently falls in the 'severe or at risk of severe absence' category (missing 60% or more of school), you will be sent an additional letter to discuss required improvements over the next few weeks.

We would like to thank those students who already achieve 96% attendance and above and can confirm that there will be a rewards system in place for regular and improved attenders from September. Should you wish to discuss anything in this letter further, or if you are experiencing any difficulties with your child's attendance, please contact the Attendance Team immediately on 01302 700002 option 1.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Wilson

Assistant Principal

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