



Dear Parent/Carer,

As a school we are acutely aware of the importance of attendance on student's holistic experience of school and academic outcomes. All staff at Temple Moor are absolutely committed to supporting our young people to achieve their personal goals and be ambitious for the future. We place great value on having strong relationships with our families to maintain our high expectations for attendance and punctuality. You may be aware of the importance the government is placing on improving school attendance and for these reasons, we felt it appropriate to share some important reminders with all our families as we begin the new academic year.

Each day your son/daughter does not attend school equals 6 hours of missed learning opportunities that other children in the class are receiving. When this becomes persistent, it quickly adds up to leave significant gaps in knowledge and impact on curriculum progress. Absence also prevents children from understanding important issues in wider society and taking advantage of the opportunities around them, such as extra curricula activities. Furthermore, students that are frequently late to school will see this reflected in their attendance certificate and more importantly, will find it difficult to maintain academic progress by missing learning time. Our Y11 students had huge success in this year's GCSE examinations and there is a clear correlation between those with high attendance achieving higher grades.

We understand that at times we can all be unlucky enough to fall ill, and this is reflected in all our rewards events and attendance procedures.

Students have 13 weeks a year where they are not required to be in school and therefore sufficient opportunities to go on holiday. Our policy is to not authorise holidays in term time unless in exceptional circumstances and we will use the local authority fixed penalty fine system where these are taken. We ask that before you choose to take your son/daughter out of school for a holiday that you reflect on the fact that 5 days equals 30 hours of missed learning and 10 days equals 60 hours of missed learning and that you are clear that this is coded as unauthorised absence.

Last term, our attendance team wrote to all students whose attendance was below 90% for the year and therefore fall into the 'persistent absentee' category to offer the opportunity for a meeting in school before the new academic year to access any support with improving attendance. As per our attendance policy, any student with below 90% attendance will start on 'proof of illness' for any absence taken in this academic year.

I would also like to highlight where you can find more information regarding the procedures and support, we have in place. These have been updated for the 2023-24 academic year.

It is essential that you report your son/daughter's absence via the guidance on the link below every day that they are absent from school.

[Temple Moor High School & Sixth Form - Red Kite Learning Trust - Attendance \(tmhs.co.uk\)](https://www.tmhs.co.uk)



Mrs Gibson and Mrs Constantine our Attendance Leads and our two attendance officers Miss Lawton and Miss Owens can be contacted on our email - tmhsattendance@tmhs.rkt.co.uk

The attendance team will be making phone calls and completing home visits to support students to attend regularly.

Please also find attached our frequently asked questions regarding all areas of life at Temple Moor including those that may become a barrier to attendance.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your son/daughter attends school regularly.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs H. Britton

Associate Deputy Principal Pastoral