



Raise your Child's Attendance, – Raise their Chances!

What does “Good Attendance in Blackwood
Comprehensive School” mean?



Missing School = Missing Out

Do you know what your child's attendance is?

Do you know what it means?



This is Simon. He is in Year 7 and has 90% attendance.

- ▶ Is that good?
- ▶ What does that mean?



Simon thinks this is pretty good, so do his parents. Are they right?

- ▶ 90% attendance = $\frac{1}{2}$ day missed every week!!



Missing School = Missing Out

Students with 90% attendance

This means that they are absent from lessons for the equivalent of one half day every week.

Mon		Tues		Wed		Thur		Fri	
AM	PM	AM	PM	?	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM



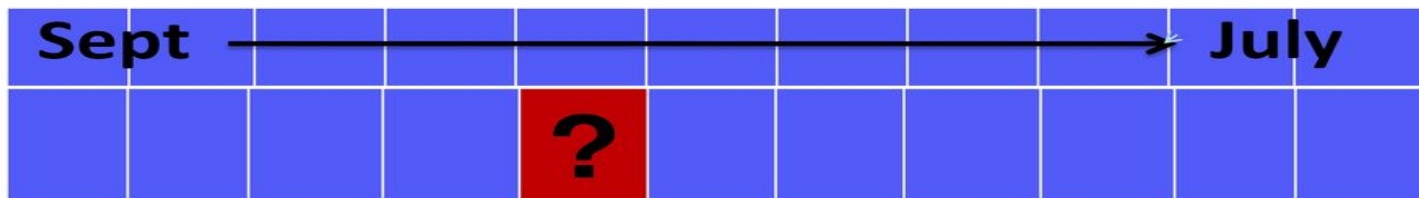
Absent **half a day** every week

Let's look a little closer.....

1 school year at 90% attendance = 4 whole weeks of lessons missed!!!! That's 100 lessons.

90% attendance means that a student has missed the equivalent of **four whole weeks** of lessons in the school year.

38 school weeks

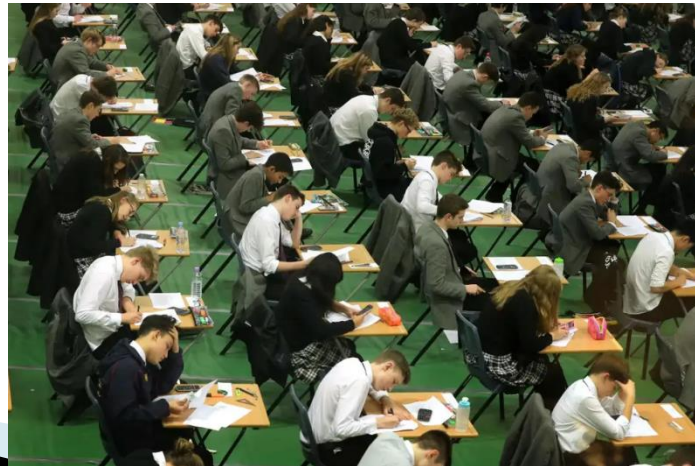


Absent for **4 weeks!**

What impact might this have on Simon's life.....?

Research suggests that 17 missed school days a year = GCSE grade drop in achievement.

The greater the attendance the greater the achievement.



Percentage attendance weekly and equivalent time missed in a week

- ▶ 90% = $\frac{1}{2}$ day missed
- ▶ 80% = 1 day missed
- ▶ 70% = 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ days missed
- ▶ 60% = 2 days missed
- ▶ 50% = 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ days missed
- ▶ 40% = 3 days missed
- ▶ 30% = 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ days missed
- ▶ 20% = 4 days missed
- ▶ 10% = 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ days missed

Percentage Attendance

	Termly		Weekly
90% =	1 week 2 days	=	4 weeks
80% =	2 weeks 4 days	=	8 weeks
70% =	4 weeks 1 day	=	12 weeks
60% =	5 weeks 3 days	=	16 weeks
50% =	7 weeks	=	20 weeks
40% =	8 weeks 2 days	=	24 weeks
30% =	9 weeks 1 day	=	28 weeks

Percentage attendance by the time you get to Year 11.

- ▶ 90% = 20 weeks = 1 ½ terms
- ▶ 80% = 40 weeks = 1 year
- ▶ 70% = 60 weeks = 1 ½ years
- ▶ 60% = 80 weeks = 2 years
- ▶ 50% = 100 weeks = 2 ½ years

How will this affect the life chances of your child?

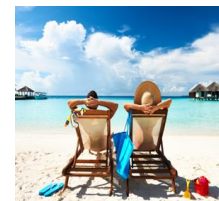
So 90% is not as good as it first seemed.

What can I do as a parent/carer to increase my child's attendance?



Ways for parents to encourage attendance:

- ▶ Keep up to date with your child's attendance percentage.
- ▶ Talk regularly with your child about school and how they feel about it. Children are more likely to attend if they feel supported and their anxieties are listened to.
- ▶ Phone us as soon as possible to tell us why your child is absent and when you expect them to return. Putting the school number into your phone can save you time. Make sure you know the school procedure for reporting an absence.
- ▶ Only grant days at home for genuine illness. School will require medical evidence if attendance drops.
- ▶ Avoid taking holidays in term time.



Ways for parents to encourage attendance:



- ▶ If you have concerns ring us – we will check attendance and offer support if needed.
- ▶ Assist us in praising and rewarding good attendance. If there is a problem with your child's attendance talk calmly to your child and listen to the explanation. Pursuing the reason for non-attendance is important.
- ▶ Talk to us to resolve issues. We will be able to help you and your child. You are not alone.
- ▶ Be particularly watchful and supportive in the run up to tests and be aware of coursework deadlines.

Attend and Achieve!!

- ▶ If a school can improve attendance by 1% they will see a 5-6% improvement in attainment (DFeS)
- ▶ Please help us and your child by ensuring their attendance remains above 95%, allowing them to achieve their full potential.



Please help us and your child by ensuring their attendance remains above 95%, allowing them to achieve their full potential.

Every lesson
counts!!!!

