



3rd September 2025

Dear Parents, Carers, and Students,

Welcome to the new academic year at Ansford Academy! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable break. As we begin the year with renewed energy and fresh opportunities, we remain committed to working in partnership to ensure every student experiences success, wellbeing, and a strong sense of belonging.

A Positive Start Matters

At Ansford, we believe that *every school day counts*. The first two weeks of term are especially important—they lay the foundation for the year ahead. During this time, students:

- Build relationships with their teachers and classmates
- Learn essential classroom routines and expectations
- Begin key academic content and foundational learning
- Take part in early assessments that help us tailor our teaching

Absences during this critical period can disrupt not only academic progress but can also increase the risk of students developing persistent absenteeism. Students who miss the start of term often find it harder to settle in socially and emotionally, making it more challenging to feel connected and engaged with school life. That's why regular attendance from day one is so important.

Our Expectations Around Attendance

We expect all students to attend school *every day and on time*, unless there is a valid reason such as illness or a family emergency. If your child is going to be absent, please contact us on attendanceofficer@ansford.mnsp.org.uk or 01963 350895 as soon as possible so we can stay informed and support their return to learning.

It's important to note that our approach to attendance is never about blame or punishment. Instead, it's rooted in care, understanding, and a shared commitment to each student's success.

Support Comes First

We recognise that some students and families face real challenges that can affect attendance—whether it's health-related issues, anxiety, transport difficulties, or other personal circumstances.

If you are finding it difficult to maintain regular attendance, **please reach out**. Our pastoral team is here to listen, understand, and work with you to find the right support. That might include in-school adjustments, referrals to external services, or simply a conversation to better understand what's going on.

We are here to help—not to judge.



Working Together

We know that strong home–school partnerships are key to helping students thrive. With your support, we can give every child at Ansford the best possible start to the academic year and ensure they feel confident, connected, and ready to learn.

Thank you for your continued support and for prioritising your child’s attendance and engagement; we look forward to a successful and fulfilling year ahead for all our students.

Kind regards

Mrs L Sweetlove
Pastoral Leader – Attendance and Inclusion