



ASTREA ACADEMY WOODFIELDS
Weston Road, Balby, Doncaster, DN4 8ND
01302 312140
Principal: Mr David Scales



Dear Parent / Carer,

Attendance to school, on time every day, is essential. When your child comes to school every day they make better relationships with their friends, achieve in their GCSEs and are more likely to find success later in life.

We have noticed that scholars are reporting being off for coughs and colds and minor ailments. Unless the illness is particularly serious, scholars should make every effort to attend daily. Secondary school is different to primary school, children should not be kept away from school in the event that they have a minor illness.

Having broken attendance (a day off each fortnight or on different days) means scholars are missing more than 5 hours of learning that day. This means that they will struggle to understand their lessons when they return. This is because lessons are taught in a sequence which relies on knowledge from prior lessons. When we hear the phrase "it's only one day off", we think that this is sometimes ignoring the impact that this has on children; particularly their safety, friendships, learning and future success.

We understand that sometimes scholars may be ill from time to time, and it is also important for children to develop resilience to attend school. This is where they can continue to develop friendships, learn more, remember more and go on to live a great life full of opportunity and choice.

Information on when to keep your child off school can be found by using this link: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

It is worth considering how much learning will be missed over the full academic year. Whilst 85% attendance may 'sound good' your child will miss out on over 150 lessons of learning. This will have a detrimental impact on their education.

Overall Attendance Percentage by the End of Year	Lessons Missed	Sessions Missed
99.5%	5	2
97.5%	25	10
95%	50	20
90%	100	40
85%	150	60

If you feel that there is any support the academy can offer in getting your child into school every day, then please do contact the Key Stage Team for **Co2032 and 31** lowerschool@astreawoodfields.org or upperschool@astreawoodfields.org for **Co2030,29 and 28**

Thank you for ensuring your child attends school every day.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R Ayres
Assistant Principal – Attendance.