

CARDINAL WISEMAN

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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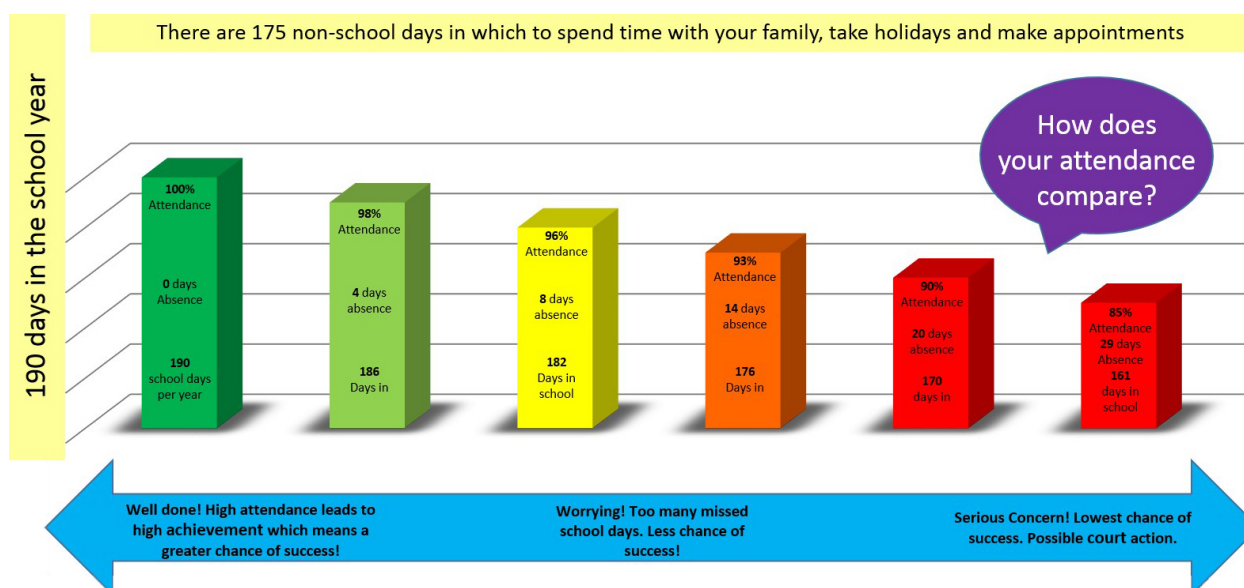
Dear Parents / Guardians,

Please find attached a document which summaries your child's attendance and punctuality for the academic year so far. Every pupil in the school should aim for excellent attendance - **we set a minimum target of 96.0%**- so if your child is currently above this figure they should be congratulated. If your child is currently below this target they need to be in school on time every day to make up the deficit. *The only exception to this is if your child is showing symptoms of COVID-19 or they have been identified as a contact of someone who has COVID, and if this is the case you must notify the school.*

2020-21 has been a difficult year in terms of school attendance, but we have tried to keep Cardinal Wiseman functioning in as normal a way as possible, providing a safe and secure environment for your child to learn and thrive. Now that the school is back open it is vital that your child arrives on time everyday to maximise their learning. **Years 9, 10 and 11 start at 8.30am and Years 7 and 8 8.40am.** It is important your child arrives at their allotted time to avoid the mixing of bubbles. If your child arrives late to school twice or more in a week, without a valid reason, they will be issued with an after-school detention the following Thursday. Years 10 and 11 also receive a same day break-time detention. If their punctuality fails to improve you will be asked to attend a parental meeting with the attendance team to discuss the issue.

What does good attendance look like?

The image below is a useful visual representation, showing what each percentage means in terms of days and hours missed from school.



When a pupil scores 90% in a test you would automatically assume they had performed well, but 90% when applied to attendance is NOT good attendance. 90% attendance means the pupil has missed 20 whole days of learning in an academic year and this equates to 170 days of missed learning over the course of their school life. 90% attendance or below is classified as **persistently absent** and is where local authority intervention is required. We take attendance and punctuality very seriously at Cardinal Wiseman and therefore all absences will be followed up by a member of the attendance team, either with a phone call and / or home visit. After 3 separate cases of absence due to illness you will be asked to come into school for a parental meeting.

A reminder that when your child is absent the parent / carer is expected to notify the school before 9am for safeguarding purposes.

Good news about the Breakfast Club:

I am pleased to announce that the week beginning 26.04.21 the Breakfast Club will be open again to both Year 7 and Year 8 from 8.10-8.40am. (*The n.b. 19.04.21 it will just be Year 7*). The pupils should enter the school building through their designated entrance and proceed to the location, where they will be kept in their year group bubbles. **Year 7 = Small Dining Room and Year 8 = Large Dining Hall**. As well as providing a bagel and drink for breakfast we will also be providing fresh fruit this term in a bid to encourage healthy eating from the children. Please encourage your child to attend the Breakfast Club as it will help to ensure they are on time every day and it is a lovely way to start the morning. Specific invites will be sent to individual children this term, and if your child receives one of these we would really like to see them at the club.

Thank you for your continued support during this unprecedented time. If you have any questions / concerns about attendance please do not hesitate to get in touch. You can phone the school and ask to be put through to attendance or you can use the attendance email address: attendance@cardinalwiseman.net

Let's all make the summer term of 2021 our best yet. The attendance team, in consultation with Heads of Year will make sure all those pupils who have excellent - or improved - attendance and punctuality are rewarded, so watch this space for more information. The school website has an attendance page where you can find useful information regarding attendance / punctuality, and here the formation groups with the best attendance for that week will be announced.

Yours Sincerely,

The Attendance Team