

7 June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Attendance and Rewards**

I am writing to introduce myself, I am the Attendance Manager here at Longsands Academy. My role is to monitor attendance and punctuality. I am here to support parents, carers and students with regards to attendance at school.

The year 2020 was a very different and difficult year for all our community, especially in relation to attendance in school. Students may have had to self-isolate and missed learning in their usual classroom setting. There may have been a raised level of anxiety for your child(ren) around attending school while we were going through a national pandemic. We are now beginning to return to a sense of normality regarding attendance, and whilst we continue to follow guidelines and our national roadmap – we are upholding our stance on outstanding attendance.

I would like to congratulate the 243 students who currently have 100% attendance for this academic year. All students who end the academic year on 100% will receive a certificate and pin badge to congratulate them on this fantastic achievement. We are bringing back our attendance rewards linked to our House Points, looking into reward visits and in school rewards for children achieving high attendance.

It has been proven that attendance and attainment are closely linked. For example, if your child has 94% attendance, this means they have missed up to 11 full days of school, the equivalent of 55 lessons.

I am here to support both you and your child(ren) maintain high attendance during their time at Longsands. If you have any questions or require support, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01480 353535 or email me via [kelly.baker@astrea-longsands.org](mailto:kelly.baker@astrea-longsands.org)

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Baker  
**Attendance Manger**



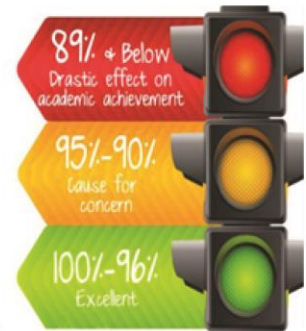
# Attendance Works



EVERY STUDENT • EVERY DAY

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Regular school attendance will help develop friendships and social skills
- Students who miss fewer days become better readers
- Just 17 days absent from school a year could mean a drop in a GCSE grade in all subjects
- 95% Attendance means your child has missed 5 school days and up to 25 lessons



Attending school regularly helps students feel better about school and themselves. Build this habit so they learn that going to school on time, every day is important. Excellent attendance will enable students to build positive relationships with peers and improve their chances of being academically successful.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Let your child know how important education is
- Check homework is completed
- Establish positive night-time and morning routines
- Ensure your child is organised and get uniform and bags ready the night before
- Don't let your child stay home unless they are really unwell and/or infectious. Keep in mind complaints of stomach aches or headaches can be a sign of anxiety and will not improve by staying at home
- If your child is anxious or has concerns about school talk to Form Tutors, Student Support Officers, or their Head of Year
- Avoid medical/dental appointments that are not urgent

### Every Minute Counts

If your child arrives late to school everyday, their learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school everyday over a school year adds up to lost learning time.



**We are here to help, contact us for support and advice:**

**Attendance Officer:** [absence@astrea-longsands.org](mailto:absence@astrea-longsands.org)

**Attendance Manager:** [kelly.baker@astrea-longsands.org](mailto:kelly.baker@astrea-longsands.org)

**WORK HARD • BE KIND • ACHIEVE MORE**

**Help Your Child Succeed in School:**  
Build the habit of excellent attendance early

