

1st November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

At Bacon's College, we are committed to providing every pupil with the best possible education, and as we reach the end of the first term of the year, we want to highlight the crucial role that attendance plays in your child's academic success. Research shows that regular school attendance is closely linked to increased academic achievement. Missing even a few days can disrupt learning, making it harder for pupils to stay on track and keep up with their peers. Each day in school is an opportunity for pupils to engage with new material, ask questions, and build upon previous knowledge. Your child's Year 11 mock examinations take place from Monday 4th November until Friday 15th November. Regular attendance will play an important part in your child's ability to perform at the best of their ability. Nationally the picture is clear - where pupils are regularly present in school their health and well-being are elevated, their school experience is more enriched, and they are more successful. Research by the Department of Education clearly demonstrates that pupils with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A-level results. At school level, analysis of Year 11 results from summer 2024 confirms what we have always thought. At Bacon's College, those who attend for at least 95% of the time achieve significantly higher results than those with less than 95% attendance. In our latest Year 11 cohort results, 96% of pupils achieving 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or higher had an attendance of 90+%. However, 83% of pupils that did not achieve 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or higher had attendance of less than 90% and were classed as persistently absent. Additionally, excellent attendance and attainment will be key to allowing pupils to secure the post-16 place in a pathway of their choice.

Pupils need to be onsite for 8.15am, ready for line up to take place at 8.25am. If your child is going to be absent, studentabsence@baconcollege.co.uk must be informed via email or the school contacted by phone. Leave of absence during term time will not be authorised. Holidays taken during term time will impact on your child's attendance and progress and you may receive a fixed penalty notice.

Please make every effort to book any appointments out of school hours. Please refer to the NHS guidance on illness in school if you are unsure about whether your child is well enough to attend: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> If there are any barriers or challenges affecting your child's ability to attend school, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Pyke, Assistant Principal. We are here to help and work together with you to provide the necessary support and resources to ensure your child can attend school regularly and thrive. We are looking forward to the rest of Year 11 being both productive and successful for your child, filled with many achievements and positive experiences for all our pupils. Year 11 Parents' Evening will take place on Thursday 5th December 4-6.15pm and we look forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's progress. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to working with you to make this year one of great progress and success. We will continue to track individual attendance, and we'll share any concerns about your child's attendance if it starts to drop.

Yours sincerely,

C. Pyke

Mr C Pyke - Assistant Principal – Head of KS4

c.pyke@baconcollege.co.uk



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