The Eastwood Academy

Believe, Succeed, Together

31st August 2023

Re: Attendance

Dear Parent,

Evidence shows that the pupils with the highest attendance throughout their time in school achieve the best GCSE results. By ensuring that your child attends school regularly, you are providing them with the best chance of future success.

Regular school attendance not only supports your child's academic progress, but also helps them develop crucial life skills, resilience and a strong work ethic that will benefit them throughout their lives.

I understand that life can present challenges that may impact attendance. If you are facing difficulties or concerns that are affecting your child's attendance, I encourage you to reach out so we can work together to support you and ensure your child attends regularly. The SLT Lead for Attendance is Mr. M. Cartlidge – MCartlidge@eastwood.southend.sch.uk

In terms of some general points to support your child attending school regularly, please refer to the list below.

- Talk to them about how important it is to attend school and ask regularly about their progress.
- Ensure you register with School Gateway to track their attendance and achievement.
- Ensure they have a good sleep routine, eat healthily and exercise regularly.
- Book all holidays outside of term time.
- Book medical and dental appointments outside school hours. If this is not possible, ensure they attend school before and after the appointment.
- At the earliest point where you have concerns about their attendance, contact the school - Pastoral E-mail Directory and MCartlidge@eastwood.southend.sch.uk
- The Government has published a recent blog on why school attendance is important and provides advice on circumstances where missing a school day is permitted.

The Academy's target is for all pupils to achieve 100% attendance. Working together, we can get as close as possible to this aspiration.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. N. Houchen
Principal