

**Promoting excellent attendance to ensure that your child makes every minute of every lesson of everyday count**

Attending school has a huge impact on your child's academic success starting from reception all the way through to Year 11 and into the 6<sup>th</sup> form. Families play a vital role in making sure that their children get to school safely, regularly and on time. Here are some useful tips to help you.

**Always make school a priority**

- **Never** make doctor, dentist or optician **appointment** during school time unless this is absolutely necessary.
- If you do need to make an appointment in school time try to ensure that your child **misses as little of school** as possible.
- We know that travel companies don't make it easy for families, but never book a **holiday** during term time (it won't be authorised, your child will fall behind and you may be fined).
- Don't allow your child to stay off school to make things **easier** for yourself – this is against the law.
- **Don't** allow your child to miss school on Mondays and Fridays if you are going away for the **weekend**.
- **Don't** allow your child to take a day off because of the **weather**.
- **Don't** allow your child to take a day off for their **birthday** – this is completely unacceptable.

**Help your child to stay on track**

- Find out if your child is coping with their work and if they are up to date – missing school will make them fall behind.
- Check your child's attendance with school, you might not realise how much school they have missed.
- Encourage your child to stay back at school to attend home learning clubs, booster sessions and extra lessons whenever they are offered.
- If your child forgets their home learning, PE kit, stationery etc. or is not in correct uniform, it will cause problems for them at school – please help your child become organised at home.

This table shows the average GCSE grade achieved by students at GSHS last year:

Attendance	Average GCSE Grade
98 % to 100%	B -
95% to 98%	C
90% to 95%	C -
85% to 90%	D -
Below 85%	E +

Missing school will make your child fall behind in lessons and will impact on their academic progress and achievement.