



# ATTENDANCE NEWSLETTER

## A message of thanks

As we come to the end of the Autumn term, we would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all parents and carers for your ongoing support with attendance. We appreciate that this is the time of year when the dreaded cold and flu viruses increase and pupils may feel a little under the weather. Your encouragement in helping pupils attend school when they are well enough has made an enormous difference. Because of your support, students have continued to access the full curriculum as well as the range of co-curricular opportunities on offer.

## Whole School Attendance

We recognise the importance of good attendance on pupils' education, wellbeing, and life chances and therefore we have set ourselves an ambitious whole school attendance target of **97%**. Regular attendance ensures pupils do not miss key learning, fall behind in their subjects, or miss out on the many enriching co-curricular opportunities available at Higham Lane North Academy.

We regularly share each pupil's individual attendance percentage with them so they can develop a sense of responsibility and ownership over their attendance. This helps pupils understand the impact of good attendance, track their progress, and set personal goals for improvement.

Our current Whole School Attendance figure is **96.01%**. We are confident that working together we will be able to reach our whole school attendance target in the Spring term and maybe even exceed it!

## House Attendance Figures



= 96.98 %



= 97.60 %



= 96.65 %



= 93.89 %



= 95.11 %

## **Staying Safe This Time of Year**

We understand that many families are concerned about the spread of cold and flu viruses at this time of year. In school, we are taking several measures to help minimise the spread, including:

- Enhanced cleaning, especially high-touch areas such as door handles and toilets (cleaned multiple times per day)
- Promoting good hygiene routines, including proper handwashing
- Providing tissues in all classrooms
- Teaching pupils to 'Catch it, Kill it, Bin it'

Your cooperation in reminding pupils of these habits at home is greatly appreciated.

## **Is My Child Too Ill to Attend School?**

### **Coughs and Colds**

It is usually fine to send your child to school with mild cold symptoms such as:

- a runny nose
- a sore throat
- a cough
- a headache

If they have a high temperature, please keep them at home until the temperature has gone.

Encourage your child to:

Wash their hands regularly

Use and dispose of tissues properly

### **Feeling Anxious or Worried**

It's normal for children to feel anxious at times. This might show as tummy aches, headaches, or changes in appetite or sleep. Avoiding school can increase children's anxiety about attending.

Talking openly about worries—such as friendships, bullying, schoolwork, or sensory issues—can make a big difference. Please contact us if you feel your child needs support. If anxiety continues to impact daily life, consider speaking with your GP or school nurse.

## **Celebrating Excellent Attendance**

We are thrilled to celebrate the 63 pupils who have achieved 100% attendance this term! These pupils will be recognised in our end-of-term reward assembly and invited for a special treat.

We also understand that students may occasionally be unwell. To recognise excellent attendance overall, all pupils in our 98% Club will be entered into a raffle with a selection of prizes announced during the end-of-term awards assembly.

### **Christmas Daily Attendance Draws**

Every day, pupils who attend school are automatically entered into our prize draw. Recent prizes have included:

- Hot chocolate and biscuits in the North Café
- Early lunch passes
- "Sit next to a friend" passes

In addition, all pupils with full attendance from 1st December will receive a goody bag at the end of term.

### **Can You Help Us Reward Attendance?**

We are keen to continue offering exciting incentives into the Spring term. If you own or represent a business that could donate small prizes, vouchers, or treats, we would be very grateful. Please contact the school office if you are able to support.