



ATTENDANCE NEWSLETTER

A message of thanks

Thank you for your continued support and for working in partnership with us to give your child the best possible start in life. One of the most important parts of this partnership is attendance.

Good attendance drives positive outcomes. It strengthens safeguarding, because children who are in school are seen, supported, and safe. It boosts wellbeing, providing routine, friendships, and a sense of belonging. And of course, it underpins achievement, ensuring pupils have the learning time they need to make progress and reach their full potential.

By helping your child attend regularly and on time, you are giving them the strongest foundations for success. Thank you for everything you do to support this.

Learning is like a jigsaw puzzle

Learning doesn't happen in isolated chunks—it's sequential, like building a jigsaw puzzle. Each lesson adds a new piece, helping the bigger picture make sense. When a student misses time in school, it's not just a single piece that's lost; it's the connection between pieces, the flow of learning, and the confidence that comes from keeping up.

There's a common misconception that a missed lesson can be replaced by:

- Reading the booklet page at home or borrowing a friend's notes
- Quickly looking over the PowerPoint

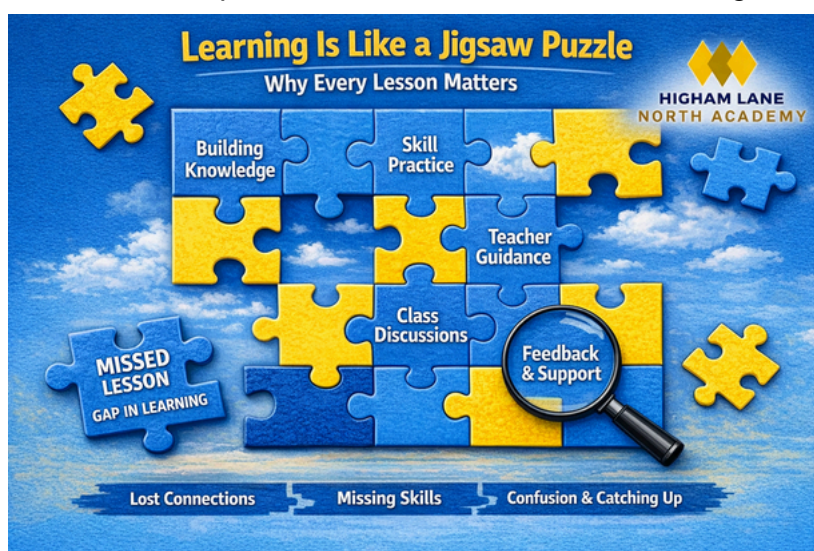
However, in every lesson, students:

- Hear explanations that build on previous knowledge
- Ask questions and get immediate clarification
- Practise new skills with teacher guidance
- Receive feedback that helps them improve

When puzzle pieces are missing:

- Students can feel confused in later lessons
- Confidence drops
- Progress is slowed
- Students may feel overwhelmed trying to catch up
- Gaps widen over time, affecting long-term achievement


If you ever have concerns about your child's attendance or wellbeing, we're here to support you.



When Is Your Child Too Sick for School?

Making the Right Attendance Decision



Send to School if...	Keep at Home if... 	Seek Medical Advice if...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Mild cold, runny nose or slight cough  No fever overnight  Mild tummy ache  Eating and drinking normally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Temperature over 38°C (100.4°F)  Vomiting 2 or more times in 24 hours  Diarrhoea  Too unwell to participate in school activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Temperature over 38°C with other symptoms  Breathing issues or persistent cough  Severe pain or dehydration  Concerning rash

Children do not need to be kept off for 48 hours if they're sick or have diarrhoea. Once they feel well enough, they can return to school - even later in the day!

Remember: Keeping children at home unnecessarily can impact their learning and wellbeing. We are here to provide support and can often accommodate a later arrival.

House Attendance Figures



= 96.78 %



= 96.76 %



= 96.69 %



= 92.92 %



= 94.45 %

Attendance support at Higham Lane North Academy

At Higham Lane North Academy, we operate with a no-judgement, no-blame culture. Our priority is to understand the reasons behind your child's attendance pattern and to work with you to ensure they have the best possible chance of success.

When a student's attendance falls below our school target of 97%, we may put in place a range of supportive measures. These are designed to identify barriers, offer help, and celebrate improvements. Support may include:

- A supportive conversation with your child by their House Champion
- Identifying barriers to attendance and ways we can help
- Personalised attendance targets
- Personalised rewards for improved attendance
- Staged attendance letters to keep you informed
- Use of the ATTEND toolkit
- Attendance support meetings with the Deputy Headteacher or SENDCO and parents/carers

All of these steps have one shared aim: to work together to secure the best outcomes for your child.

If you would like to book an attendance meeting, need to make us aware of an issue affecting attendance, or would like us to speak with your child, please contact Miss R Charles at:

hello@hlna.co.uk