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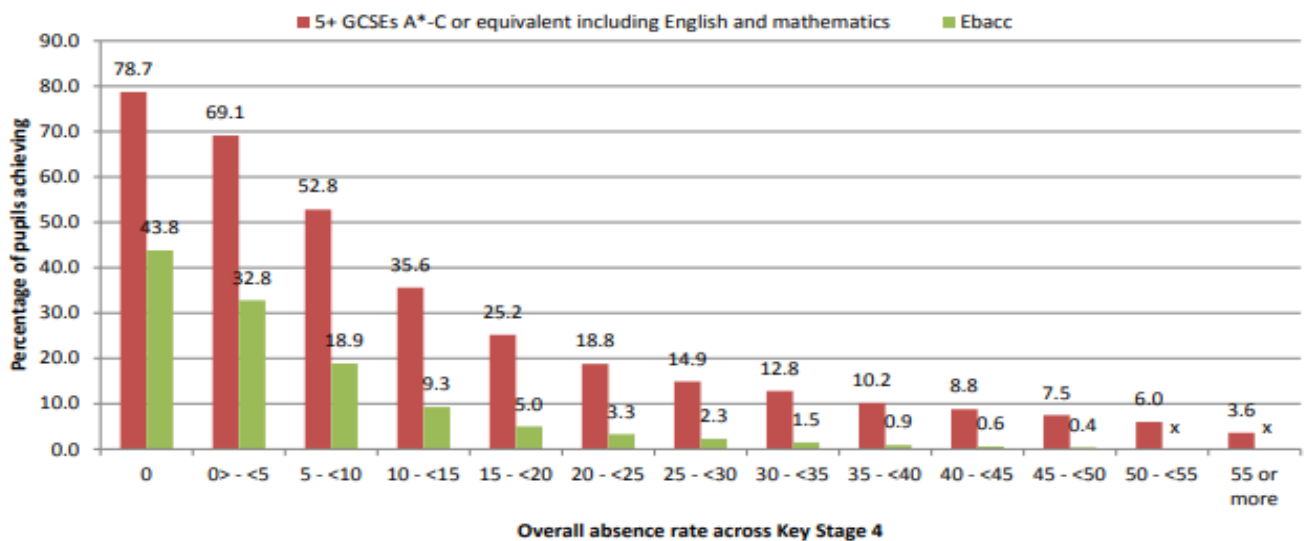
7<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

## School Attendance – Information Letter

We believe that your child is brilliant and deserves to have a great life. We believe they have the potential to achieve great things and we want them to do this. Our job is simple: to ensure that they have every chance to achieve their potential. We know that by being in school every day, this will maximise this possibility. Because your child matters to us, their attendance matters too.

We know that achieving the best GCSEs that they can, will open doors for your child. We think this is too important to ignore. There is much evidence to support the impact that strong attendance at school has: both on life chances and on GCSE results – please see the graph below:



- Pupils with no absence are 2.2 times more likely to achieve 5 GCSEs
- 90% attendance for 1 school year = 4 weeks of lessons missed
- 17 missed school days a year = 1 GCSE grade drop in achievement

Put simply, if your child comes to school more, they will be better able to fulfil their potential and go on to achieve great things. We really want this for your child.

The government says that ‘good’ attendance is considered to be 96% or above, with no unauthorised absences. But we are worried every time your child is not in school. Because we want your child to be happy and successful, we monitor attendance regularly and will get in touch if attendance falls below expected levels.

Please see overleaf.....

If your child's attendance is below 90%, which is the equivalent of missing at least half a day per week, they are identified by the government as 'persistently absent'. We know the impact this will have on their ability to achieve their potential so we take this really seriously.

Being on time for school is also something we take seriously. First thing in the morning important messages and aspects of the personal development are delivered by tutors so we need your child to arrive on time to school and then to lessons to maximise their learning – we think they are important enough to pursue this.

Please see below for a summary of how absence can impact over time:

- **90% attendance for 1 school year = 4 weeks of lessons missed**
- **90% attendance for 5 school years = 20 weeks of lessons missed**
- **17 missed school days a year = 1 GCSE grade drop in achievement**

Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Russell  
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