



## LITTLE HEATH SCHOOL Attendance Updates

We know that parents and students are doing a great job of checking attendance on Satchel One – thank you.

We are now sending home half-termly attendance reports to parents as part of the Department For Education (DfE) drive to raise the profile of attendance and to help parents monitor their child's attendance. These reports will show cumulative attendance – in other words attendance from the start of the academic year in September until the end of the previous term. If your child missed some days in term 1 this is obviously going to make the attendance reduce quite significantly because the number of days expected to attend is relatively low.

To illustrate:

- **Child A (Y9)** was expected to attend **36 days (72 sessions)** in **Term 1**, but had 3 days off for an unauthorised holiday and a further 2 days for illness. This means they have missed 5 days (10 sessions) or attendance is 31/36 which is a percentage of 86.1%.
- **Child B (Y7)** was expected to attend **37 days (74 sessions)** in **Term 1**, but had 2 days off in September due to illness, 1 morning off due to an orthodontist appointment and then another 2 days off just before the October holidays due to further illness. This means they have missed 4.5 days (9 sessions) or attendance is 32.5/37 which is a percentage of 87.8%.

When we send home reports in Term 3 to show parents cumulative attendance for Terms 1 and 2 students will have been expected to attend a further 35 days in term. Therefore, if child A has no further days off in Term 2 (i.e. remains at 5 days absent) attendance will now be at 94.4% and if Child B has no further days off (i.e. remains at 4.5 days absent) attendance will now be at 93.75%.

We hope the above helps with any parent who was concerned that their child's attendance was already below 90%. Hopefully with continued great attendance you will see percentages rise fairly quickly. Our full attendance policy is published on our website – here is a [link](#) to it if anyone wants further details.

Please speak to your child's tutor or HOY if you are experiencing difficulties in getting your son / daughter to school. We also recommend the following online resources to help support young people and their families with attendance issues:

- [Home - Kooth](#) – a mindfulness app that can help with anxiety / mental health / feeling down
- [YoungMinds | Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People | YoungMinds](#) – help for parents and young people
- [Not Fine in School - School Refusal, School Attendance](#) – a resource created especially for young people and their families struggling with school
- [Time To Talk Day - Time To Talk Day](#) – really useful help for any mental health issues

Please also remember to report your child's absence ([attendance@littleheath.org.uk](mailto:attendance@littleheath.org.uk)) before 8.30am on the first day of absence and for every day of absence. This ensures we know your child is safely at home.

Many thanks,

**Mrs Rayner**  
Assistant Head

**Mrs Kink**  
Attendance Officer

