

Kindness
Determination
Self-belief

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The Importance of Excellent Attendance

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Mullion School, we understand the importance of regular and punctual school attendance as fundamental factors in promoting children's learning, achievements, and overall well-being. Our analysis of GCSE results has consistently shown a strong connection between school attendance and academic success.

Through regular attendance, our students gain access to the high-quality education we provide, which is why we encourage all our students to attend school every day and reach their maximum potential.

It is crucial that our students are always in school on time, with excellent attendance and as few missed school days as possible. Absences disrupt routines and can cause children to miss crucial aspects of their learning.

If your child misses...	That equals at least...	Which is the same as around...	And over 13 years of education that's...	Or at least...
1 day a fortnight	78 lessons per year	4 whole school weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years	1014 lessons
1 day a week	156 lessons per year	8 whole school weeks per year	Over 2.5 whole years	2028 lessons
2 days a week	312 lessons per year	16 whole school weeks per year	Over 5 whole years	4056 lessons
3 days a week	468 lessons per year	23 whole school weeks per year	Nearly 8 whole years	6084 lessons

Why is it so vital to attend every day?

Learning is a continuous process; each day's lessons build upon the foundation of the previous ones, gradually expanding children's knowledge and skills. Our lessons incorporate teacher-led instruction, planned activities for recall, engaging discussions, demonstrations, experiments, and active participation as part of daily learning activities. These experiences cannot be made up for those who are absent. Active participation is how students truly learn.

What other benefits does regular attendance offer your child?

Students with good attendance typically achieve better outcomes over time and enjoy their school experience more. A quality education equips your child with the best possible start in life and prepares them for adulthood. Consistent school attendance also encourages the development of responsible behaviour patterns, including independence and life skills.

What are the risks of frequent absences?

A child who does not attend school regularly will struggle to keep up with their work and miss out on essential learning that forms the basis of their knowledge and skills. The more a student misses school, the lower their outcomes tend to be, which can further reduce their motivation to attend school.

What if my child needs to attend a medical or dental appointment?

Parents/carers must, wherever possible, arrange for medical and dental appointments to take place outside of school hours. Where appointments during the school day are unavoidable, the pupil should only be absent for the minimum amount of time necessary for the appointment. It is not acceptable for a pupil to miss a whole day for an appointment, unless absolutely necessary, in which case the school will need an explanation as to why this is. The school recognises that pupils with a health condition may have a higher number of medical appointments than other pupils and it is therefore possible that at least some of these appointments may be during the school day.

If a pupil must attend a medical appointment during the school day, they must be collected from the school office by the parent/carer or another authorised adult and signed out in the 'signing out' book. No pupil will be allowed to leave the school site without parent/carer confirmation.

The school reserves the right to request evidence of appointments from parents/carers. Suitable evidence may include appointment letters or cards, copies of emails from a verifiable address (e.g. NHS) confirming the date and time of the appointment.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any concerns about your child's attendance or if you would like advice or support to help improve their attendance. Mullion School is committed to maximizing the education of all its students and aims to collaborate with parents to achieve this goal.

Yours sincerely



Helen Mathias
Deputy Head

Headteacher: Mrs M Dunleavy

Deputy Headteachers: Mrs D Penberthy BSc (Hons)

Mrs H Mathias BA (Hons)