

Year 7 Transition Bulletin

Episode 3: Supporting Good Attendance

Regular and punctual school attendance is important. Pupils need to attend school regularly if they are to take full advantage of all of the opportunities available to them. This is important not just for your child's learning, but also for their overall wellbeing, wider development and their mental health. For some children, attending school every day will be harder than for others but for most students, we believe the best place to be is in school, surrounded by the support of their friends and teachers.



It can be difficult as a parent, to know when to send your child into school if they are feeling unwell or mildly anxious, but finding solutions is a team effort between school, parents and children. Bodmin College are committed to working with families to support regular attendance in school.

How will Bodmin College support my child's attendance?

- We will have high expectations of your child's attendance.
- We will promote a positive and welcoming atmosphere in which pupils feel safe, secure, and valued, and encourage in children a sense of their own responsibility.
- Your child's tutor will offer your child a warm welcome to school every day, will praise excellent attendance and will challenge any absence. They will also make sure your child understands what their attendance percentage is, and what this means.
- Your child will be rewarded with merits (we'll talk about those next week) for excellent and improving attendance.
- We will follow up on any un-explained absence.
- We will let you know if your child's attendance is at risk of falling below expectations.
- Our wider pastoral team will work with you to understand, and overcome, any barriers to regular attendance.
- We will work with the Education Welfare Team and in line with the both the CELT Attendance policy and recently published government statutory guidance for schools to ensure that attendance issues are challenged consistently.

What can I do as a parent/carer to support excellent attendance?

- Hold high expectations for your child's attendance; encourage and praise regular attendance.
- Avoid disruption to your child's attendance by booking medical and dental appointments outside of the school day whenever reasonably possible.
- Read the NHS advice to help you decide whether your child can go to school if they are feeling unwell. Report your child's absence as soon as possible on the first day of their absence. (We'll communicate our processes in September)
- Use Class Charts (We'll share log-ins in September) to monitor your child's attendance.
- Communicate any barriers to regular attendance to the pastoral team as soon as possible so that we can work with you to overcome these.

Term Time Holidays

Absence will not be authorised in term time for scenarios such as family holidays (unless exceptional circumstances can be evidenced), birthday treats, oversleeping due to a late night or visiting relatives. We would encourage you to make use of the 2 week October Half Term (21st Oct- 1st Nov).

The Department for Education recently published a short guide for parents/carers about how to support children to attend school and get the right support. You can read it [here](#).

[Bodmin College Attendance Policy](#)

