

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr S Garrity

Chair of Governors: Mrs H Baker



QEGS Academy Sponsors:

J.C. Bamford Excavators Ltd. - The Woodroffe Benton Foundation
- The Old Ashburnian Society - The Old Trust (founders 1585)

June 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

The Importance of Regular Attendance at School

As we enter the final weeks of this summer term we would like to once again thank and congratulate those students, and their parents, whose attendance is regularly 100%, or close to it. It is a parents' legal responsibility to ensure that their child attends school regularly. Ideally a young person should aim for 100% attendance at school. The Department for Education sets a target for school attendance, which is that all school students should attend school for at least 95% of each academic year. The QEGS expectation is at least 96%.

Any absence from school disrupts the education of a student. Young people who do not attend school regularly:-

- Do not achieve their best possible academic outcomes
- Do not engage with the full range of educational opportunities available to them
- Compromise their future educational and employment opportunities
- Find it difficult to maintain friendships

The attached "Lost Learning" information sheet clearly illustrates the impact of days missed from school. Although 96% attendance might sound high, in fact this equates to a student being absent for almost 2 school weeks (49 lessons missed). Students whose attendance falls below 96% are considered to be below the expected QEGS standard.

Absence from school can only be authorised by the Headteacher within the boundaries set by the Education (Pupil Registration, England, Amendment) regulations (Sept 2013). All unauthorised absence taken in term time will be referred to Derbyshire County Council with the request that a Penalty Notice is issued. Please see the attached statement from Derbyshire County Council with regard to the issue of penalty notices.

Students whose attendance gives cause for concern will be referred to the Education Welfare Officer within the local multi-agency team. Given the importance of students attending school regularly, all QEGS Rewards trips/events have the attendance criteria of 96% set which students must achieve in order to participate in any rewards events.

Whilst we appreciate that students' attendance may be affected by periods of ill health or other mitigating circumstances, we ask that you continue to ensure that your child attends school in line with the targets set for school attendance.

If you would like at any time to discuss your child's attendance data, then please contact their Progress Leader:

- Year 7 - Miss L Clayton (Extension 1505 | clayton@qegs.email)
Mr J Conlon (Extension 1525 | conlonj@qegs.email)
- Year 8 - Mrs G Bains (Extension 1422 | bains@qegs.email)
- Year 9 - Mr M Posmyk (Extension 1670 | posmyk@qegs.email)
- Year 10 - Mrs J March (Extension 1562 | march@qegs.email)
- Year 11 - Mr C Flynn (Extension 1235 | flynn@qegs.email)

Yours Faithfully

Mr S Garrity
Headteacher

Good Attendance Means

Being in school at least 96% of the time (between 180 & 190 days)

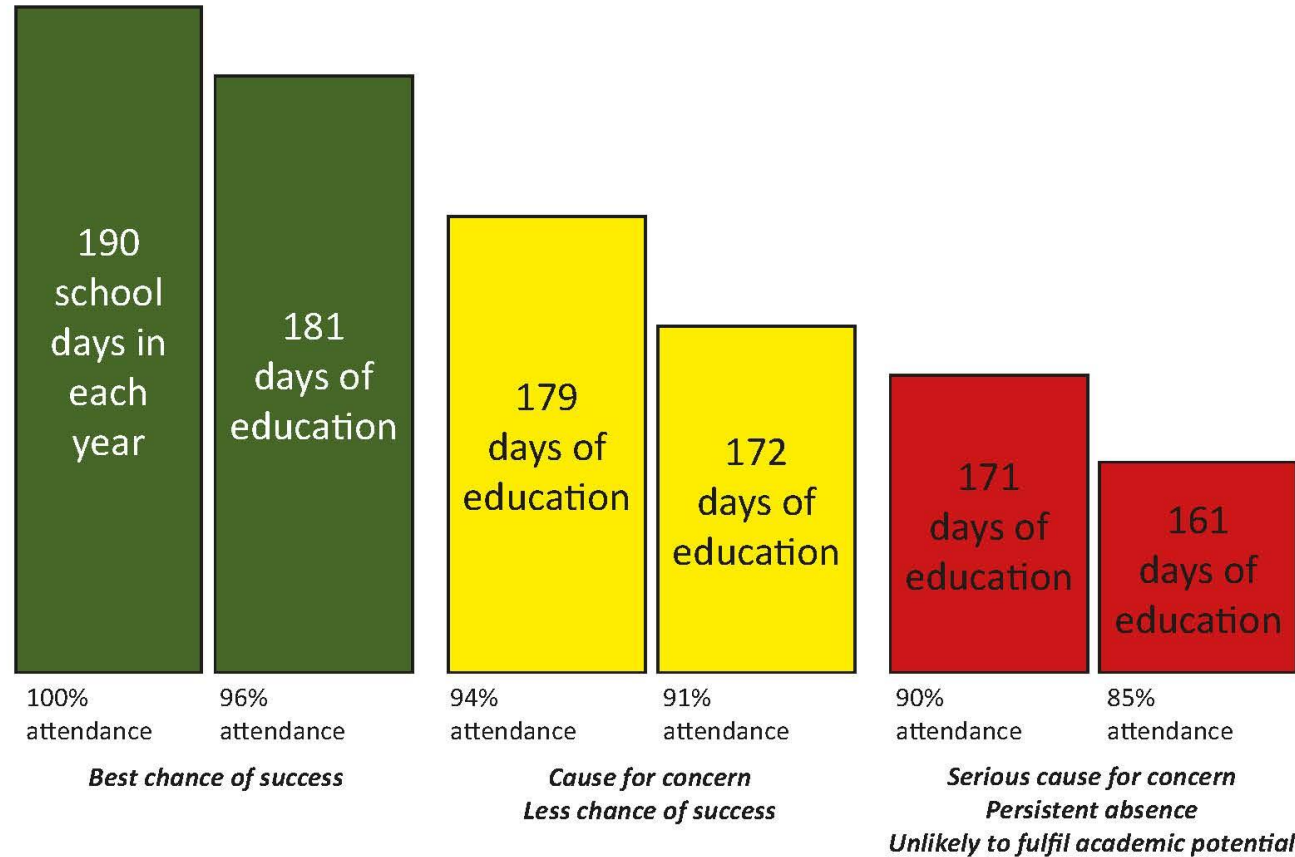


QEGS' attendance target is set at 96%.

Attendance is one of our criteria for students to take part in our rewards events.

175 non-school days per academic year for family time, visits, holidays and shopping

190 school days per academic year



IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Unauthorised leave of absence during term time

On 6th April 2017 the Supreme Court appeal, in relation to the Platt v Isle of Wight case, determined that under section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996 attending school ‘regularly’ means:

“in accordance with the rules prescribed by the school”

PLEASE NOTE

Therefore, from 1st September 2017, if requested, Derbyshire County Council will consider the issue of a penalty notice for any period of holiday absence which has not been authorised by the Headteacher regardless of a child’s wider school attendance.