

## Star Attendance at The George Eliot School

Dear parent/carer

We wanted to write to thank you for all the support you have continued to give the school on our full return to school.

We are working hard to ensure we support all our pupils, in all stages of their school work.

We, as a school intend to use all our usual attendance strategies. **We expect all our pupils to attend full time** unless a statutory reason applies i.e. sickness, or an exceptional circumstance or where a pupil is complying with clinical and or Public Health England advice.

### **The DFE have confirmed that the following responsibilities will resume:**

Parents' duty to ensure that their child attends regularly.

Schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence and have the right to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with Local Authority codes of conduct.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct Penalty Notices.

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child (for example 1 child and 2 parents, means each parent receives a fine for £60, totalling £120, this is reduced to the single £60 if paid within 21 days).

Where a Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out in the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider investigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

**We recognise that some pupils will be anxious about being at school. We work with all our pupils who require additional, specific provision in order to support any of their concerns. The school have also increased its pastoral provision to support all our pupils at this time.**

Please help us to help your child. Over the remaining academic year you will see some new and additional efforts the school will be making to encourage excellent punctuality and good attendance to school every day.

You can see a full copy of our attendance policy:  
<http://www.george-eliot.warwickshire.sch.uk/attendance>

### **What does good attendance look like?**

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Government research shows a correlation between low attendance and low attainment. Pupils who attend regularly will typically achieve higher grades in examinations, have greater social skills and have the benefit of a full education.

Our attendance target for school is 95% and we expect all pupils to aim for excellence and aim for 100% attendance throughout the year.

## Aim for Excellence

<p><b>100% Attendance</b> This is where all our pupils aspire to be throughout the year. This means no missed learning.</p>	<p><b>96% Attendance</b> This is around 8 missed days over the year. Your child should aspire to be at 100% attendance going forward.</p>	<p><b>Below 90% Attendance</b> Below 90% equates to 19 missed days a year or half a year over 5 years. This is classed as persistent absence.</p>
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