

19 September 2025

Dear Families

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our students on their excellent attendance so far, this academic year.

I would also like to update all families that the academy will be finishing early on **Thursday 16th October**. This early finishing time is ahead of our Open Evening event, and the academy will close to all students at **2:10pm**. All students will have their lunch as normal at the academy before leaving.

Attendance on this day is still essential, as is attendance on Friday 17 October, where the academy will be open as normal.

As we enter the autumn season, we are aware that bugs and illnesses can become more prevalent. If your child does feel unwell and you are unsure whether they should attend school you may find this guidance from the NHS useful, '[Is my child too ill for school?](#)'. We would advise that you send your child into the academy where we can monitor and send home if necessary but if you are in any doubt, please email kmartin@dixonsng.com with any questions.

In summary your child should still attend school if they:

- Have a cold, headache or COVID-19
- Feel anxious or worried
- Have a tummy ache

Families are welcome to leave paracetamol and medicine labelled at reception so that it is in the academy should we need to contact you for permission to give paracetamol.

We want all students to continue this term on a positive note, and consistent attendance helps ensure they don't miss out on important learning experiences and opportunities to engage with their peers.

Below is a table illustrating the impact of attendance on academic success:

% Attendance	Category	Days Missed per Year	Lessons Missed per Year	% Chance of Attaining 5 Subjects at Grade 5-9
100%	100% attendance	0 days	0 lessons missed	100%
98-99%	Excellent attendance	3 days	15 lessons missed	94.8%
97-98%	Risk of underachieving	1 week	24 lessons missed	98-97%
95-96%	Risk of underachieving	1.5 weeks	36 lessons missed	74.3%
93-94%	Serious risk of underachieving	2.5 weeks	50 lessons missed	74.3%
90-93%	Serious risk of underachieving	3 weeks	72 lessons missed	60.4%
Below 90%	Extreme risk of underachieving	3.5+ weeks missed	More than 84 lessons missed	34.7%

As shown, even a few days missed can have a significant impact on learning and academic success. Every school day counts, and we encourage you to support your child in maintaining excellent attendance, ensuring that they arrive before 8.05am.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance or if you need support, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Kat Martin

Assistant Principal