



**KING EDWARD VI
HANDSWORTH WOOD
GIRLS' ACADEMY**

Educational excellence for our City

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**KING EDWARD VI
FOUNDATION
BIRMINGHAM**

Educational excellence for our City

11 October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As we embrace the new academic year, I would like to take a moment to thank those of you who are ensuring that your daughter attends school every day, on time.

We would like to emphasise the crucial role that attendance plays in your daughter's educational journey. Your partnership in ensuring regular attendance is fundamental to her success. Good attendance is directly linked to positive student outcomes.

Whenever you wish to view your daughter's attendance, please log onto the Arbor App and look at the attendance section. You will be able to see her current attendance percentage, her daily attendance/absence and reasons provided. You can also select the option of looking at previous years. It would be good practice to view this weekly and ensure that all absences are verified by you with a reason.

What are the risks of missing a day of school?

Every moment in school counts, and days missed add up quickly. For example, a child in Year 10 who is absent for three days over a half term could miss 18 lessons in total.

The higher a pupil's attendance the more they are likely to learn, they have more opportunities to engage with classroom materials and participate in discussions. They will receive timely feedback from teachers, and they are likely to perform better in exams and formal assessments.

We often associate 90% of anything as being very good. This is the opposite for attendance. Students with attendance of 90% and below are recognised as persistent absentees by the Department for Education. At King Edwards VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy, we judge the impact of attendance as the following:

Headteacher Miss K Takhar, LLB



As you can see from the Attendance ladder above, 90% attendance equates to 20 school days missed, which at KEVIHWGA equates to 120 missed lessons. The gaps in learning would be extensive.

Over the next few weeks Pastoral Managers and/or the Attendance Officer will be reaching out those of you whose daughter had attendance of 85% or below in the last academic year. And even though it is early in the term, we will also be speaking to parents of students whose attendance is of current concern.

As we strive to provide the best possible education for your child, we recognise that every family may face unique circumstances that can impact attendance. Whether it be health concerns, family emergencies or other challenges, please know that we are here to support you. If you are experiencing any difficulties that affect your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. We are committed to working collaboratively with you to find solutions and ensure that your child can continue their education effectively.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Dawn Morgan
Attendance Officer

Headteacher Miss K Takhar, LLB