

ATTENDANCE

Deyes High School is committed to offering a first-class education to all our students. A first-class education requires full attendance. Student's should be at school on time, every day the school is open, unless the reason for the absence is absolutely unavoidable.

We take attendance seriously and celebrate excellent attendance.

WHAT CONSTITUTES GOOD ATTENDANCE?

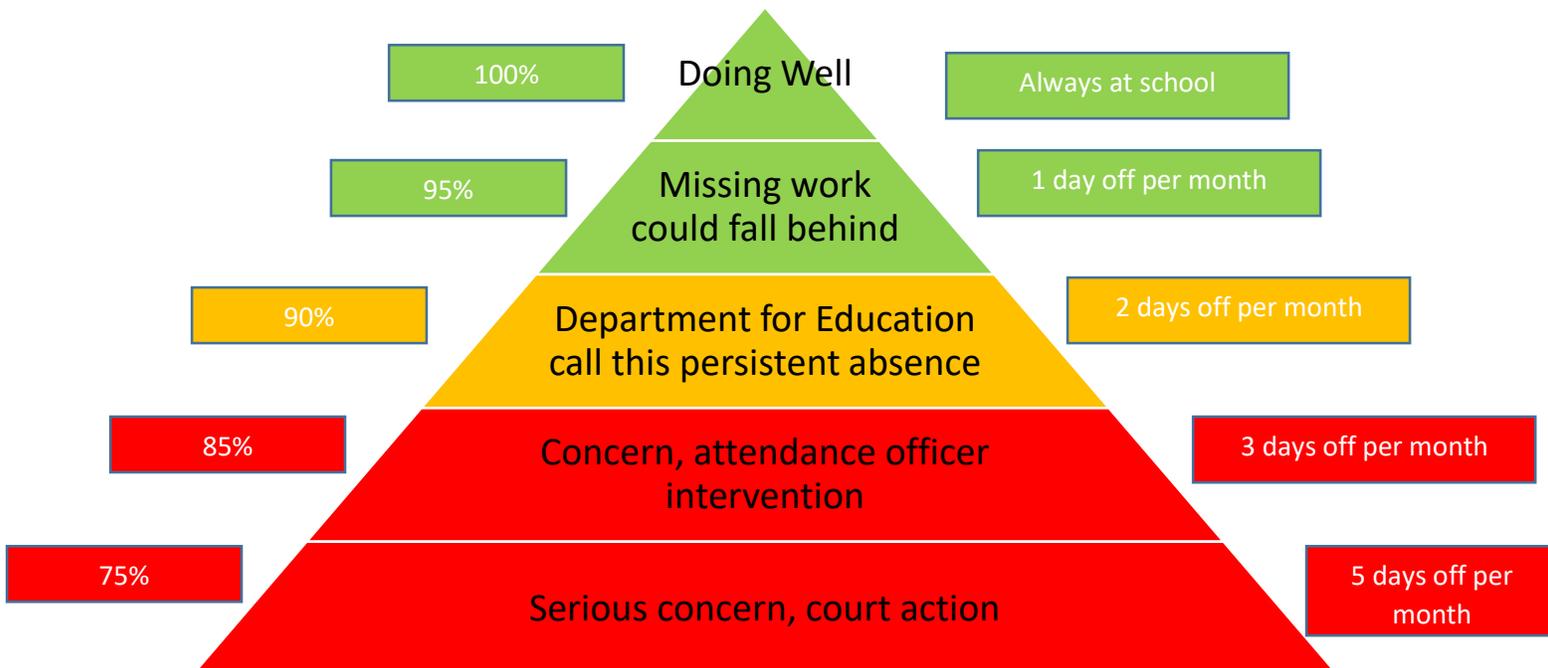
Attendance percentages are not like examination results; an attendance percentage needs to be in the high 90's before it can be considered good. Consider the following examples:

- An attendance record of 90% might seem good but it is equal to 1 day missed per fortnight. If this continues from years 7 to 11, a total of 6 months of education will be lost.
- An attendance record of 80% might seem acceptable, but it is equal to 1 day missed per week. If this continues from years 7 to 11, a total of one year's education will be lost.

In order for an attendance record to be deemed good it must be 95% or above.

- 100% - Excellent attendance (lots of students achieve this)
- 98% - Very good attendance
- 95% - Good attendance

AN ATTENDANCE FIGURE OF 90% MEANS A STUDENT WILL HAVE MISSED 4 WEEKS OF LESSONS!



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

The impact on attendance on GCSE results

Statistics tell us...

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|----------------------|---|---|
| Above 98 attendance | = | Excellent chance of eight 5-9 grades |
| Above 95% attendance | = | very good chance of five 5-9 grades |
| Above 92% attendance | = | Fair chance of five 5-9 grades |
| 90% attendance | = | Less than 50% chance of five 5-9 grades |
| 88% attendance | = | less than 3% chance of five 5-9 grades |

STUDENTS HAVE TO ATTEND TO ATTAIN

Authorised absences are mornings or afternoons away from school for a very good reason, for example, severe illness or other unavoidable cause. The school will determine whether an absence is to be unauthorised or not. Unauthorised absences are an offence by The Parent under section 7 of the 1996 education Act. These may include:

- Keeping children off school without good reason
- Truancy from a session
- Absences which have never properly been explained
- Children who arrive at school too late to get a mark
- Taking unauthorised holidays

Additional support is provided by:

- Meetings in school to discuss the issue and what can be done to address it
- Visits at home by our school attendance welfare officers
- Referral to the Authorities

Continued non-attendance could mean:

- Reduced exam grades, poor education and limited career opportunities
- An educational penalty notice is issued to you (immediate fine)
- Court action, possibly leading to a fine of up to £2,500 or even up to 3 months in prison

HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?

We would like to thank the majority of parents who support our students to attend school on time daily – well done. Some of you are superstars and have 100% attendance. This is a great achievement.

However, with your help and continued support we can continue to improve our standards.

TOP TIPS (Improving Your Child's Attendance)

1. Start the day with enough time for your child to be "school ready".
2. Be prepared the night before. Make time to pack school bags, organise packed lunches, have uniforms ready, set the alarm clock early and, of course, get to bed early!
3. Support your child's learning by helping with homework, reading together, encouraging discussion about world events to challenge their thinking and development.
4. Take an interest in your child's school day. Ask about favourite part of the day, their friends and encourage them to share something new that they have studied.
5. Support your child to realise the value of education and how it will help them in the future.
6. Remember good habits start early, having good attendance, being on time and organised is a fantastic lifetime value.
7. Attend school events and parent's evenings to support your child. Our school values parents who are actively involved.
8. Take your family holidays in school holiday time. Missing any learning time can have a detrimental effect on your child.
9. Avoid any unnecessary absences e.g. keeping your child off school for a minor illness or medical/dental appointment or family event.