


# INTHEKNOW

14 February 2020

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## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

At Fairfax Academy we believe that excellent attendance and punctuality are the key to success. A missed school day is a lost opportunity to learn. Students who attend school regularly have been shown to achieve higher grades than students who do not have regular attendance.

### ABSENCE

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year and the Government advise that students' attendance should be at least 95%. However, **95% attendance equates to 10 missed days of school**; a massive **50 lessons!** Research has shown that students missing 20 days of school performed a whole grade lower in their exams than similar ability students with good attendance.

### PUNCTUALITY

Poor punctuality can have a significant impact on learning time. Across a school year, being **5 minutes late per day results in a loss of 3 days learning per year**. Being **15 minutes late every day will result in 10 lost days**.

Our school day starts at 8.35am and students should be through the school gate at this time. Students that are late into school will be issued with sanctions in line with our academy Behaviour and Discipline Policy.

### APPOINTMENTS

Wherever possible appointments should be made out of school time. We understand that at times appointments in the school day are unavoidable. Please provide evidence of the appointment in advance, so that we can amend our school records, and advise the school who will be collecting your child during the school day.

### ATTENDANCE

At Fairfax Academy we are committed to challenging poor attendance. In cases where a student begins to develop a pattern of absence, the academy will advise the parents/carers that we require an improvement in attendance.

When attendance fails to improve, the school reluctantly takes the line that legal action has to be considered, and the Court Section in Birmingham becomes involved. So far this academic year, seven cases have been heard, and either a fixed penalty has been issued, or a court appearance has been determined as an appropriate course of action.

### HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Please keep in mind the cost to your child's education should they miss school. Please do not book holidays in term time. Holidays in term time will not be authorised.

**95% ATTENDANCE**  
= 10 missed days = 50 lessons!

**5 MINUTES LATE PER DAY**  
= 3 lost days learning per year

**AVOID BOOKING**  
holidays in term time

### Attendance Matters

A reminder that attendance improves achievement! Please support Fairfax in maintaining this high level. #attendancematters

### Attendance CSAWS

Please be reminded that CSAWS (Central School Attendance and Welfare Service) may conduct a home visit to any family whose child has not attended school and no valid reason has been provided.

### PTA Curry & Quiz

The PTA are hosting a Curry & Quiz evening on Thursday, 27 February. Your support of this fundraising event would be welcomed. Tickets cost £7.50 per person, or £40 for a team of 6. Please email [pta@fairfax.bham.sch.uk](mailto:pta@fairfax.bham.sch.uk) to reserve your tickets.

### A Career in Teaching

Are you interested in training to teach? Do you know someone who is interested in a career in teaching? It might interest you to know that Fairfax is going to be the lead Birmingham school for the OAKS SCITT in 2020, an Outstanding Initial Teacher Education provider, which is expanding due to its increasing success. Applications go through the UCAS website.

### Lost Property

A reminder that we have a large number of unnamed items in our lost property store. If your child has mislaid

an item can you please ask them to report to the Student Support Centre. Please be aware that all unnamed lost property will be donated to a local charity shop if not reclaimed by today, Friday, 14 February 2020.

### Dance, Choir and Orchestra Opportunities

A reminder notice: if your child is interested in joining our drama club, dance club, school choir or orchestra, please encourage him/her to go along to the rehearsals. All welcome.

### **PE Lessons – Winter Months**

A reminder notice: with the colder months continuing we kindly remind parents that students are permitted to wear the following to keep them warm during PE lessons:

- Girls are allowed to wear black base layers underneath their PE skirt and House polo shirt along with their black Fairfax fleece.
- Boys are allowed to wear long sleeved black base layer underneath their PE tops, and base layer black shorts under their shorts. Alongside this, the new boys' mid layer is available at Trutex Erdington and Clive Mark.

### **Sport Relief 2020**

An advance notice: there will be a non-uniform day on Friday, 13 March 2020 to fundraise for Sport Relief. Students will be able to pay £1 to wear their own clothes.

### **Dance Evening**

Fairfax look forward to welcoming dancers and their parents/carers to the Dance Evening on Wednesday, 11 March 2020, from 18:00 in the Hall. There will be performances from all year groups throughout the evening.

YEAR 7

A reminder notice: Year 7 Parents' Evening is on Wednesday, 18 March, 15:45-18:45. Please be aware that Fairfax uses an online booking system for Parents' Evening. Information about how to log on and book appointments will be sent on Monday, 9 March. If you have any concerns or queries about Parents' Evening please email [parentsevening@fairfax.bham.sch.uk](mailto:parentsevening@fairfax.bham.sch.uk).

YEAR 8

A reminder notice: Due to unforeseen circumstances Year 8 students HPV vaccinations were postponed on Monday, 20 January 2020. Please be advised that the HPV vaccinations for boys and girls will now take place on Wednesday, 8 July 2020. Parents/carers will have received a consent card for them to complete which will need to be returned by students to the Student Support Centre and placed in the box provided (whether parents/careers wish their child to be vaccinated or not).

YEAR 9

An advance notice: all Year 9 students will be receiving a school leaver booster injection (diphtheria, tetanus, polio and meningococcal ACWY) on Wednesday, 29 April. Parents/carers will have received a consent card for them to complete which will need to be returned by students to the Student Support Centre and placed in the box provided (whether parents/careers wish their child to be vaccinated or not).

YEAR 10

A reminder notice: Year 10 Parents' Evening is on Wednesday, 4 March, 15:45-18:45. Please be reminded that Fairfax uses an online booking system for Parents' Evening. Information about how to log on and book appointments will be sent on Monday, 24 February. If you have any concerns or queries about Parents' Evening please email [parentsevening@fairfax.bham.sch.uk](mailto:parentsevening@fairfax.bham.sch.uk).

YEAR 11

A reminder notice: the Year 11 Revision Timetable is available on the academy website, parent information section.

A reminder notice: Year 11 Mock Examinations take place between Monday, 24 February and Friday, 6 March. The mock exam timetable can be found on the school website. Students will also have received a personalised timetable for their exams.

YEAR 12

A reminder notice: Year 12 students are reminded to return their work experience forms to the sixth form supervisors.

YEAR 13

There are no Y13 notices.