


INTHEKNOW

Friday, 8 October 2021


www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk



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.

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.

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.

95% ATTENDANCE = 10 missed days = 50 lessons!	5 MINUTES LATE PER DAY = 3 lost days learning per year	AVOID BOOKING holidays in term time
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Attendance Matters

Well done to our students whose attendance has been high. A reminder that attendance should be 97%.

Attendance improves achievement!

Please support Fairfax in maintaining a high level.

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.

Term Time Holiday Requests

A reminder notice: parents/carers are kindly reminded that Fairfax Academy cannot authorise holiday leave during term time. Please be advised doing so may result in penalty charges.

Detentions

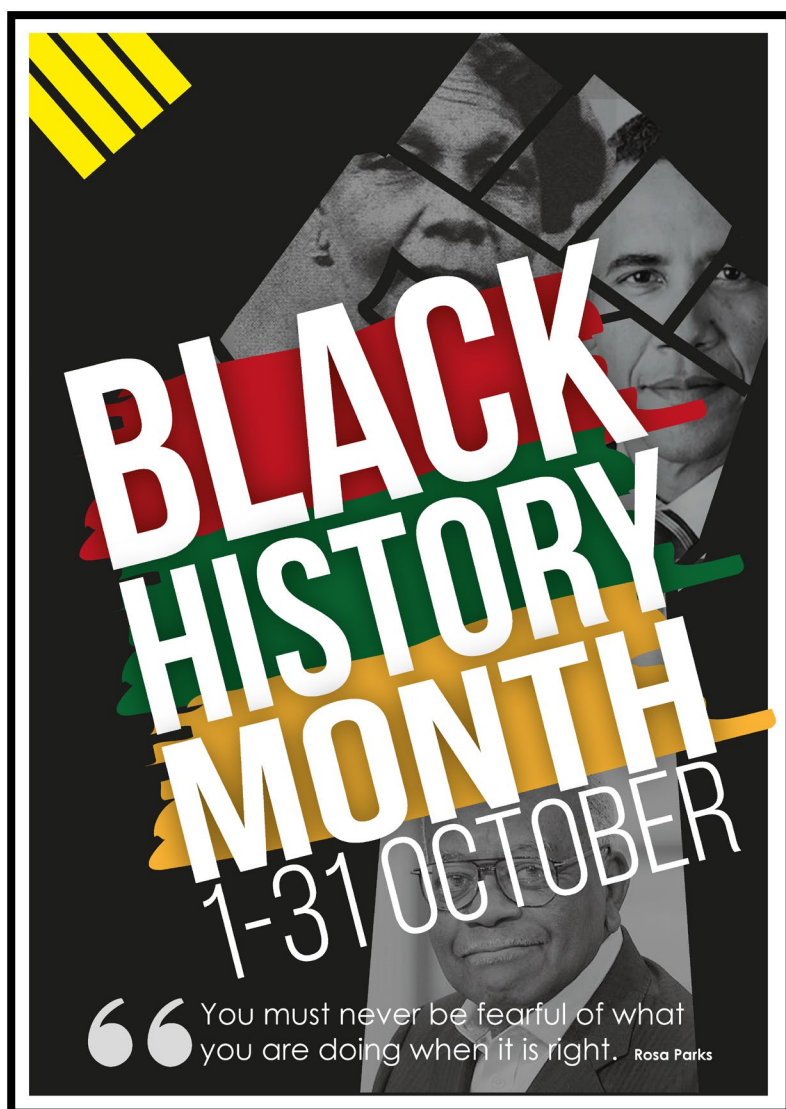
A polite reminder that schools and academies have the right to detain students for breaches of the school Behaviour Policy. Schools do not have to give parents notice of after-school detentions or tell them why a detention has been given. As a courtesy, Fairfax will send a text message to inform you. More information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/school-discipline-exclusions/discipline>.

Parental Conduct

Unfortunately, we have experienced from a minority of parents contacting Fairfax Academy, rudeness and aggression towards staff. Please be reminded that Fairfax employees have a right to be spoken to with courtesy and respect. Repeated aggressive behaviour may result in action being taken by Fairfax Academy. Please find attached a copy of the Trust's Parent and Carer Code of Conduct issued to parents/carers.

Fairfax PTA

Thank you to the PTA for hosting the recent Welcome for New Parents with hot drinks and cookies! Please email ff-pta@fairfax.fmat.co.uk for more information.



Black History Month

Our students have been working to produce events to celebrate Black History Month 2021. Students have worked collaboratively to develop their own assembly, where they are looking at and celebrating the impact Black people have made to our society today.

Our Equalities Group have also requested that Fairfax holds another House Competition to celebrate Black People from History. Students are asked to produce a piece of research about a black person who has made a difference to their lives today, and present it in an interesting way.

Entries should be emailed to ff-equality@fairfax.fmat.co.uk by the end of Tuesday, 2 November 2021.

Period Poverty

We believe at Fairfax that no girl should be in period poverty. We have a large range of free sanitary towels and tampons that girls are welcome to. They are kept in Student Support and we give them out to students discreetly. Please can you kindly remind your child where to get sanitary towels and tampons from if they need them. If there are any particular needs that school are not aware of, please can you contact Mrs Williams.

In addition to this, we have a small supply of knickers. We are however

running low on these. If you are in a position where you are able to purchase a pack of black knickers that we can give to our girls as they need them, please can you send them to Mrs Williams.

THE EISTEDDFOD 1980s

Students are invited to enter the programme cover design competition for The Eisteddfod. The winning designs will be used in the production of programmes and tickets. The theme this year is the 1980s. Please find attached the programme cover design competition information.

THE EISTEDDFOD AUDITIONS

Students are invited to audition for The Eisteddfod to represent their House in dance, vocal, instrumental, spoken word and/or play.

Dance	Vocal	Instrumental	Spoken Word	Play	Questions
Coventry Thu 14 Oct After School Diamond Suite	Coventry Wed 13 Oct Lunchtime A2	Coventry Tue 19 Oct After School G6	Coventry Thu 21 Oct After School A2	Coventry Fri 15 Oct After School A2	Miss Blake A2 Mr Thompson G6
Kenilworth Wed 20 Oct After School Diamond Suite	Kenilworth Thu 21 Oct Lunchtime C9	Kenilworth Wed 20 Oct Lunchtime E2	Kenilworth Fri 22 Oct Lunchtime C9	Kenilworth Tue 19 Oct After School Diamond Suite	Mrs Hunter-Stott C9 Mrs Sharratt E2
Stratford Thu 14 Oct After School E3	Stratford Thu 14 Oct Lunchtime B4	Stratford Tue 19 Oct After School E1	Stratford Thu 21 Oct Lunchtime B4	Stratford Fri 15 Oct After School Hall	Mr Porter B4 Miss Sutton B7
Warwick Fri 22 Oct After School Diamond Suite	Warwick Tue 19 Oct After School B14	Warwick Wed 20 Oct After school E2	Warwick Tue 19 Oct Lunchtime B14	Warwick Fri 15 Oct After School C10	Mr Carty B14 Mrs Day B3

Wet and Cold Weather

During wet and cold weather, we would ask that you **equip your child with a waterproof coat and/or umbrella** in order to ensure they are able to have a break outside. We know that being in the fresh air benefits well-being. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Assistant Head of Year or Head of Year.

PE Lessons – Winter Months

A reminder notice: with the colder months ahead, 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 skort and House polo shirt along with their black Fairfax fleece.
 - N.B. the black base layers should be a long sleeved top and base layer leggings (no fashion leggings permitted).
- Boys are allowed to wear a long sleeved black base layer underneath their PE tops, and base layer black shorts under their shorts. Alongside this, the boys' mid layer is available at Clive Mark and Crested Schoolwear.

PE Lessons – Footwear

Please be reminded that school shoes are not to be worn as PE trainers within PE lessons. Outdoor trainers should be worn in line with the Academy's Uniform Policy. Consequences will be issued to students who do not comply.

YEAR 7

A reminder notice: the Redpoint visits are scheduled for w/b 18 October:

- Coventry House – Monday, 18 October
- Kenilworth House – Tuesday, 19 October
- Stratford House – Wednesday, 20 October
- Warwick House – Thursday, 21 October

Students are required to bring a packed lunch, wear trainers, casual trousers (not jeans) and a warm top. Please note students' clothes may get dusty/dirty. Students are reminded to meet in the Upper Refectory on the day of their House visit. Students not going on the visit will be in normal lessons.

To support students with Mathematics, all students in Year 7 have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 7 students will be available to order on ParentPay soon.

YEAR 8

A reminder notice: Year 8 students who received zero consequences during Year 7 will be invited by Mrs Colbourne to attend a reward trip in the Spring Term. Further information will follow.

To support students with Mathematics, all students in Year 8 have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 8 students are available to order on ParentPay.

YEAR 9

A reminder notice: Year 9 students who received zero consequences during Year 8 will be invited by Miss Dowell to attend a reward trip in the Spring Term. Further information will follow.

To support students with Mathematics, all students in Year 9 have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 9 students are available to order on ParentPay.

YEAR 10

A reminder notice: Year 10 students who received zero consequences during Year 9 will be invited by Mr Ravenscroft to attend a reward trip in the Summer Term. Further information will follow.

To support students with Mathematics, all students in Year 10 have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 10 students are available to order on ParentPay.

YEAR 11

Please find attached a copy of the Year 11 Extra Provision Timetable for your information.

A reminder notice: Year 11 students who received zero consequences during Year 10 will be invited by Ms Ahmed-Lockley to attend a reward trip to Tamworth Odeon and Namco Funscape Bowling on the first Enrichment Day in November. Further information will follow.

Students who are doing one of the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards and have not yet completed or received their awards, please log on to eDofE to check the following (logging on via mobiles is the best way to access it):

- Does your evidence show start and end dates which last a full 3, 6 or 12 calendar months, e.g. 1st Jan to 1st April (3 full calendar months)?
- Is your volunteering done for a non-profit making company?
- Is one of your pieces of evidence marked as an assessor's report? (Your assessor must not be a family member).
- Have you completed all parts of the expedition section? (Training confirmation, practice expedition information, qualifying expedition information). Locations always have to be a postcode.

Please see Miss Clarke if you have any questions.

A Mathematics notice: to support students with Mathematics, all students in Year 11 have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 11 students are available to order on ParentPay. Year 11 students have also been given their pinpoint papers, which highlight topics for improvement which Maths staff will support in class. Additionally, Year 11 students have been set 'a question a day' on Show My Homework; topics checklists are also on Show My Homework. Students have been given past papers which are also available on our website. Details about revision sessions have previously been emailed, but if you would like your child to attend please contact the school. Please be advised that additional revision sessions for Year 11 students will be taking place in the Spring Term.

A reminder notice: Private Study in period 5 can be used as 'Home Study'. Students who have Private Study in period 5 will be permitted to leave the school site at lunchtime provided that they sign out in the Sixth Form prior to leaving.

A reminder notice: at Fairfax, we offer the 16-19 bursary and if you think you qualify for the bursary, please download the attached documents and return to the sixth form by the deadline date of 15 October 2021. <http://www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk/academy-life/sixth-form/financial-support/>

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- Have you completed all parts of the expedition section? (Training confirmation, practice expedition information, qualifying expedition information). Locations always have to be a postcode.

Please see Miss Clarke if you have any questions.

To support their studies, Year 12 Mathematics students have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 12 students are available to order on ParentPay.

A reminder notice: Private Study in period 5 can be used as 'Home Study'. Students who have Private Study in period 5 will be permitted to leave the school site at lunchtime provided that they sign out in the Sixth Form prior to leaving.

A reminder notice: UCAS Personal statements should be given to Ms Gray or Miss Gardner for checking and can be given to the Sixth Form supervisors to be passed on. The school deadline for early entry UCAS applications for those applying to Oxford, Cambridge, and Medicine and Veterinary Science courses is Friday, 8 October.

A reminder notice: at Fairfax, we offer the 16-19 bursary and if you think you qualify for the bursary, please download the attached documents and return to the sixth form by the deadline date of 15 October 2021. <http://www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk/academy-life/sixth-form/financial-support/>

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- Is your volunteering done for a non-profit making company?
- Is one of your pieces of evidence marked as an assessor's report? (Your assessor must not be a family member).
- Have you completed all parts of the expedition section? (Training confirmation, practice expedition information, qualifying expedition information). Locations always have to be a postcode.

Please see Miss Clarke if you have any questions.

To support their studies, Year 13 Mathematics students have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 12 students are available to order on ParentPay. Year 13 Mathematics students also have revision sessions; details of these have been previously emailed.