



Southmoor Academy
ASPIRE • ACHIEVE • ENJOY



EVERYDAY COUNTS





Southmoor Academy

ASPIRE • ACHIEVE • ENJOY

THEIR FUTURE

IS IN YOUR HANDS



YOU DECIDE

ABOVE

95%
ATTENDANCE

Means...



No gaps in their learning



The best chance for higher exam grades



The best chance for a rewarding career



Higher grades equals higher earning careers



More opportunity to socialise and make friends



More time to develop skills, try new things and open up opportunities

BELOW

95%
ATTENDANCE

Means...



Gaps in knowledge & learning



Reduced chance at good exam grades



Greater likelihood of ending up in a less satisfying career



Lower grades can lead to lower paid career outcomes



Lessened chance to learn to socialise, interact & communicate



Less time for important life skills to develop

It is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to get your child into school regularly. They **RELY ON YOU** to be consistent so that they do not miss their chance to be educated. See the reverse of this leaflet for more information on **WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS** and the support we can offer.

THE FACTS

Attending school is very important; any absence is monitored closely. The Attendance Team will contact you if we have not received an absence call. Children who are regularly absent from school miss out on opportunities which can affect their life chances. Your child must attend school every day.

KEY FACT

Young people who regularly miss school without good reason are more likely to become isolated from their friends, to underachieve in examinations and/or become involved in anti-social behaviour.

THE LAW

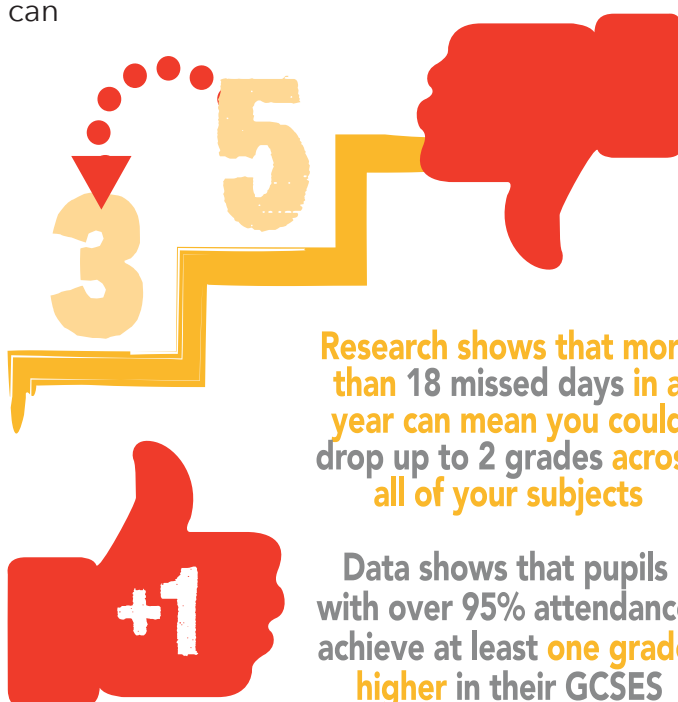
You need to make sure your child attends school every day and on time. You will be breaking the law if you do not ensure your child attends school, unless there are exceptional circumstances (e.g. medical).

PERSISTENT ABSENCE

If your child's attendance falls to below 90%, this is considered as *Persistent Absence (PA)*.

Where attendance falls below 90% and there are unauthorised absences, this will result in a referral to the Local Authority for enforcement action.

Southmoor Academy's Attendance Policy can be found by scanning this QR code:



Research shows that more than 18 missed days in a year can mean you could drop up to 2 grades across all of your subjects

Data shows that pupils with over 95% attendance achieve at least one grade higher in their GCSES

WHO TO CONTACT FOR SUPPORT

The following people are here to support you if you are experiencing difficulties getting your child into school. You can contact them via class charts or...

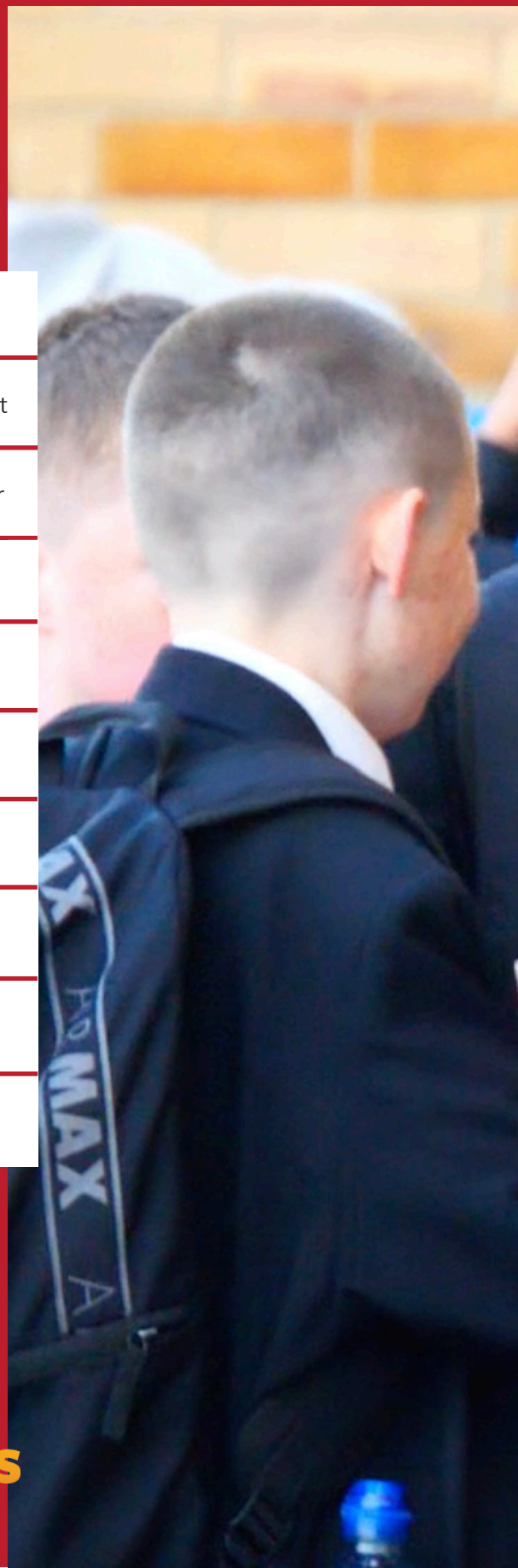
Via telephone on: **0191 594 9991**
or by email: **Info@southmooracademy.com**

Mr. Young	Attendance Lead
Mrs. Gaff	Attendance & Medication Assistant
Mrs. Doherty	Child Welfare & Support Manager
Ms. Fletcher	Head of Year 7
Miss. Morrison	Head of Year 8
Mr. Laing	Head of Year 9
Mrs. Roddam	Head of Year 10
Ms. Hudson	Head of Year 11
Mrs. Harris	Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral)
Mr. Somerville	Associate Senior Leader (Behaviour for Learning)

Attendance and Pastoral Team are all contactable via class chart app.



ClassCharts



HOW CAN YOU HELP?



- Establish a good routine in the mornings and evenings so that your child is prepared for the school day ahead.
- Make sure your child attends school daily and follows the school rules.
- Ensure your child arrives at school on time.
- Always arrange dental and medical appointments outside of school hours.
- Always inform the school if your child is absent.
- If your child is not attending school as you expect they may be putting themselves at risk - Who are they with? What are they doing?
- Take family holidays outside of term time. Holidays in term time will result in a Fixed Penalty Fine.
- Talk to your child about school and take an interest in their school work (including homework).
- Attend parent evenings and school events.
- Praise and reward your child's achievements at school.
- Always support school staff in their efforts to promote a positive attitude to learning.
- Discuss any problems or difficulties with the school - staff are here to help and will be supportive.



LATENESS

The school day begins at 8:30am. Pupils are expected to be with their form tutor from this time and so are required to be on the school yard by 8:25am prompt.

Pupils who arrive at the school gates after 8:30am will be marked down as late and required to attend detention.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS & EVIDENCE

Please give the school as much notice as possible of any medical appointments being made during the school day. Where possible, appointments should be made out of school time. If this is not possible, your child should miss the minimum amount of lessons necessary. If your child is well enough to return to school following the appointment, they should do so.

If you are asked for medical evidence, you will need to provide copies of GP appointment cards or letters, medication details, or other relevant information. Failure to provide this will result in your child's absence being recorded as unauthorised.

HOLIDAYS & LEAVE OF ABSENCE

You can demonstrate your commitment to your child's education by not taking holidays during term time. Holidays will be recorded as unauthorised and will result in all parents with parental responsibility being issued with a fine.

Any child or young person who is absent from school due to a holiday will miss out on important learning and will fall behind with their school work.

In each academic year there 190 statutory school days - this allows plenty of time for holidays to be arranged outside of term time.

Holidays taken during term time will be categorised as an unauthorised absence.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Every single day a child is absent from school equates to a day of lost learning.

For some parents, 90% may seem like an acceptable level of attendance. The reality is that 90% attendance means that your child will miss half a school day each week or 19 days of school during the school year nearly four school weeks.

This level of absence can have a detrimental impact on progress and results.

BELOW 90%

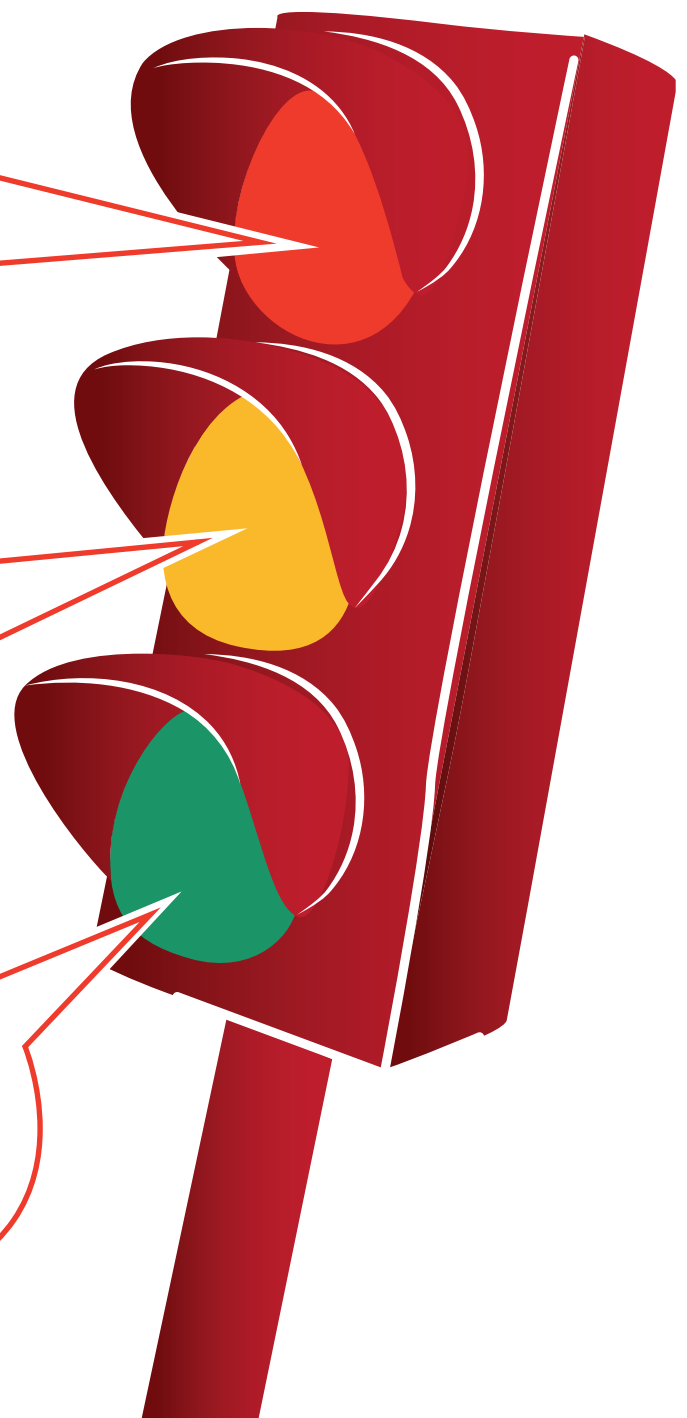
36% of students achieve 5 or more good grades at GCSE

90% TO 95%

53% of students achieve 5 or more good grades at GCSE

ABOVE 95%

79% of students achieve 5 or more good grades at GCSE



SCHOOL SUPPORT



In order to assist and support you with attendance issues, Southmoor Academy has lots of supportive options available to ensure that your child can continue to attend school, even if they are a little under the weather from time to time with a particular ailment or injury.

Some of these options may include:

- Southmoor Academy is well-equipped to support students remaining in school with colds/flu/headaches/bugs and other day to day ailments. This can involve a different working environment that is well ventilated, quiet and allows hydration and toilet access. This allows your child to continue their learning in supportive surroundings.
- Where possible, students should return to school for the afternoon session. This will safeguard your child's learning and minimise disruption to learning.
- With regards to physical injuries, support can consist of the ability to leave lessons early with a student helper to avoid student movement issues around school, a lunch fast pass and many other various supportive options will all ensure that it is still possible for students to attend school.



ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Southmoor Academy can offer a range of support to students experiencing emotional and mental health issues. If you feel any of the interventions below would benefit your child, please contact your child's Head of Year.

MENTORING

Students can access 1:1 mentoring appointments with a mentor. Many students find these appointments helpful, providing a safe space for them to discuss a range of issues.

HEALTHY HEADS

Healthy Heads is a Mental Health Support Team in Sunderland, working with Southmoor Academy to provide support for students' mental health and wellbeing. Healthy Heads treat mild to moderate mental health issues and can do so in a timely manner without the long waiting times that can be experienced when accessing external services. The service includes intervention on an individual basis, as well as group parent classes.

SCHOOL NURSE DROP-IN SESSIONS

Our School Nurse is broadening access opportunities for pupils during their drop-in sessions every Tuesday in school.

Years 7 & 8 can access our nurse at lunch on Tuesday, **between 12.00 - 12.40pm**, whilst Years 9 - 13 will have access from **1.00 - 1.40pm** every Tuesday.

Our nurses will approach the pupils while they are queuing for lunch for the first ten minutes of each lunch break, reminding them of their services and that they are available that day during lunch should the pupils require information or support. The nurses will be located in the reading room for Year 7-8 and Room 1.10 for Years 9-13 for the remainder of each lunch session. They are available to talk about anything from emotional wellbeing or mental health, through to physical fitness or advice on drugs, alcohol or C-Card services.

CAMHS

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) are services that support young people experiencing poor mental health. School or your GP can make a referral to CAMHS.

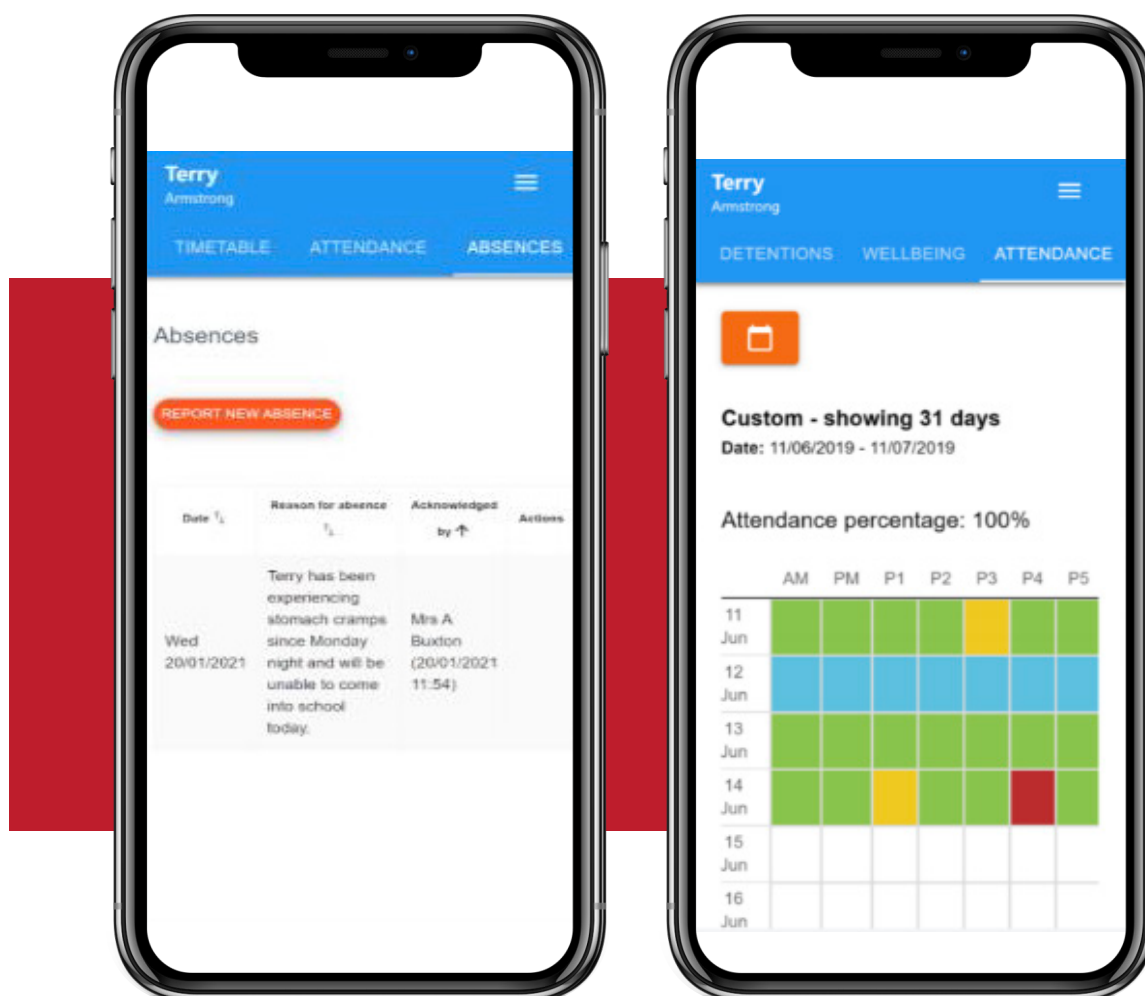
If you wish to discuss the additional support available, please contact our Attendance Officer or relevant Head of Year.

REPORTING ABSENCE VIA CLASSCHARTS

Selecting the 'Absences' tab will display a list of absences that you have reported. This includes when the absence took place, the reason for the absence and who acknowledged your report.

- To report an absence, click on the 'Report New Absence' button.
- Next, enter the details of the reported absence into the form provided.
- You can also include up to 5 files in your absence report as supporting evidence.
- Click on the 'Submit' button to send your child's information to the school.

Please note, all absences should be reported before 8:35am each day of absence.



MONITORING ATTENDANCE VIA CLASSCHARTS



ClassCharts
Part of **tes**

Selecting the 'Attendance' tab will present you with a table of your child's attendance data for the last 31 days. To change the timeframe, click on the Data button and select the date range of your choice.

Attendance records fall under four categories:

Present - Your child attended the lesson.

Late - Your child was late to the lesson.

Authorised Absence - Your child did not attend the lesson, but has a valid reason for doing so.

Unauthorised Absence - Your child did not attend the lesson and did not have a valid reason to do so.



REPORTING ABSENCE VIA PHONE

Please call us on **0191 594 9991** and **press 1** to report a student absence.

Please note, all absences should be reported before 8:00am each day of absence.



Southmoor Academy

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T: 0191 594 9991

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