

8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Families,

## Re: Attendance and achievement

At Newhouse Academy we uphold the highest expectations in all aspects of your child's education. The purpose of this letter is to raise your awareness of the link between attendance and academic achievement. The table below outlines the average GCSE grade of students and matches this to the attendance percentages:

Year 11 Attendance	Average GCSE grade (Summer 2023)
Above 90%	5.3
85 – 90%	4.5
80 – 85%	3.2
Below 80%	2.4

You will see that those students who attended 90% or more of the time performed significantly better in their final examinations than those who did not. Further, students who attended between 80 and 85% of the time performed, on average, more than 2 grades worse than those with above 90% attendance.

Attendance is one of the biggest contributors to academic success and consequently the team at Newhouse Academy is extremely proactive in encouraging students to attend on time every day. If students are not in school, they are not accessing the curriculum. This can result in gaps in their learning and as a consequence, impact negatively on their attainment. The Department for Education has also highlighted the importance of regular attendance:

*"Where parents decide to have their child registered at school, they have an additional legal duty to ensure their child attends that school regularly. This means their child must attend every day that the school is open, except in a small number of allowable circumstances such as being too ill to attend or being given permission for an absence in advance from the school."* Department for Education, May 2022. (*Working together to improve school attendance*).

In closing, we want the very best for your child and we firmly believe that with excellent attendance, your child will achieve success that will create a wealth of opportunities once they leave Newhouse Academy at the end of Year 11.

Moving forward, we are keen to work with our families to ensure your child's attendance remains high. If we can help and support in any way, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year or a member of the Academy's Attendance Team.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Hartley'.

Miss S Hartley  
Assistant Headteacher

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