



HEADTEACHER: Mr K Ford

19th July 2022

Dear Parent and Carer

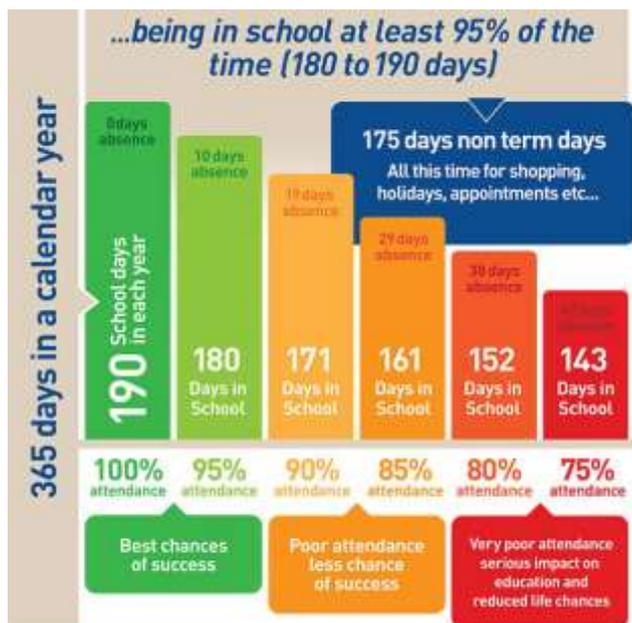
As we come to the end of this academic year, we want to acknowledge and celebrate the improvement to the overall attendance of our students this academic year.

We are acutely aware that over the past few years, students have missed a considerable amount of time due to Covid and lockdowns. We are looking forward to mitigating that lost time and I know that together we can build on the positives of this year. Our aim is to maximise every student's attendance in the next academic year: school and home, working together, is a powerful partnership that I know has the potential to ensure a high attainment percentage in 2022-23.

By setting and achieving an ambitious attendance and punctuality target for 2022-23, crucial learning will happen and the negative impact of Covid on student outcomes will start to be reversed.

Up-to-date research data proves that good attendance is directly linked to attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. There is a direct correlation between students with the highest attainment at the end of Key Stage 4 and their attendance percentage. At KS4, students not achieving Grades 9 to 4 in English and Maths had an overall high absence rate of 8.8%. Even a 95% attendance means 10 full days of school is missed. That, if you think about it, is a huge amount of learning. Together, let's give our young people the best chance to make progress, by aiming for the top percentage.

The illustrations below show the importance of attendance and punctuality at Great Marlow.



GMS is committed to ensuring that all students receive the best possible education because it prepares them for the next stage of their lives; we can only deliver that first-class education if our students are in school. Let's make 2022-23 the best attendance year to date, by having a unified attendance goal that guarantees success.

We wish you a very good break over the summer holidays and we look forward to welcoming our students back at the start of term in September.

- September 5th – Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12
- September 6th – The whole school

Kind regards

Neil Maguire
Deputy Headteacher (DSL)