



Thursday 28 September 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

RE: Working together so every child's attendance is the best it can be

Welcome back to everyone following the summer break and a special welcome to families who are joining Glenmoor and Winton for the first time.

Each September, we remind our families about the importance of regular school attendance. This is now more important than ever, as school attendance across the country is still not as good as it was before COVID. The Department for Education (DfE) requires schools to do all they can to support every child and family to attend school regularly and to follow up any concerns quickly. We work in partnership with parents and also services such as our Local Authority BCP.

Quite simply, children do better at school if they attend regularly. It is surprising how quickly a few absences add up: a child with 96% attendance has actually missed nearly 10 days of school, 40 lessons lost learning. The full attendance policy is on the school's website for Glenmoor [here](#) and Winton [here](#) but below are some of the most important parts:

Telling the school if your child is absent

Parents/carers must contact school by 0830am on the first day of their child's absence and then each day afterwards. This is important safeguarding: if your child is not at school in the morning and you haven't told them to expect this, then they must check that your child is safe. You can report your child's absence by calling their year team's phoneline and leaving a message. Our teams will call parents on the first day that a pupil is absent without explanation. This is time consuming for busy office staff – please help us by remembering to contact us in the first place.

Monitoring attendance and punctuality

Children's attendance is regularly monitored. Parents will usually be contacted if a child's attendance drops below 96%. Schools work closely with the Local Authority and advice is taken where there are concerns about a child's attendance. To work with you, we may invite you into a meeting to discuss with you and your child how we can support you further, please endeavour to attend these meetings with your Head of Year so we can ensure that we have the right interventions in place.

Medical evidence

Occasionally, a child's attendance becomes so low that the school cannot authorise any absences without seeing medical evidence, such as a prescription or a GP appointment. If you are invited into an action planning meeting with your Head of year, it is likely that this will be the case. We are aware that surgeries can apply a charge for letters from GPs and as such, we can confirm that the local authority will accept copies of prescriptions, appointment cards as evidence. These are stored securely on your child's file.

Principal: Mr Leon Lima

Glenmoor & Winton Academies

Beswick Avenue

Bournemouth

Dorset

BH10 4EX

t: 01202 527 818

e: info@glenmoorandwinton.org.uk

w: glenmoorandwinton.org.uk

Glenmoor & Winton Academies is part of United Learning. United Learning comprises: UCST (Registered in England No: 2780748. Charity No. 1016538) and ULT (Registered in England No. 4439859. An Exempt Charity). Companies limited by guarantee. VAT number 834 8515 12. Registered address: United Learning, Worldwide House, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough, PE3 6SB.



Swindon & Wiltshire
Teaching School Hub

Part of United Learning



PiXL
Partners in excellence



IT ALL STARTS AT YES



Behaviour
HUBS

Sparx Maths



Why attendance matters

Social and Emotional Development: School is not just about academics, it's also where children develop crucial social and emotional skills. At GW the opportunity for young people to spend time together out of the classroom is as important to us, as when they work together in class. We see our young people building friendships and developing their social skills when they are able to regularly spend time together.

Academic Achievement: Attending school regularly allows students to engage with the curriculum consistently. This regularity helps them better grasp the subject matter and keeps them up to date with lessons, assignments, and assessments. Consistent attendance is a significant predictor of higher grades and academic success.

Preparation for the Future: Good attendance habits instilled during school years set the foundation for a strong work ethic and commitment. Employers and colleges often look at attendance records as an indicator of a person's reliability and dedication.

Health and Well-being: At GW we pride ourselves on an excellent Pastoral support system. Regular attendance ensures that students have access to these resources, and we can step in to support students at the earliest stage possible.

We understand that circumstances may arise that lead to occasional absences, such as illness or family emergencies. In such cases, please communicate with the school so that we can provide the necessary support to help your child catch up on missed work.

We appreciate your partnership in ensuring that your child attends school regularly and punctually. By doing so, you are helping them build a strong educational foundation and set the stage for a successful future.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding attendance policies, please don't hesitate to reach out to either myself or the Year team. Together, we can work to create the best possible educational experience for your child.

Thank you for your commitment to your child's education, and we look forward to a year of growth and achievement at Glenmoor and Winton Academies.

Yours sincerely,

Angelina Parker
DSL Safeguarding and Attendance
aparker@glenmoorandwinton.org.uk

Principal: Mr Leon Lima

Glenmoor & Winton Academies
Beswick Avenue
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH10 4EX

t: 01202 527 818
e: info@glenmoorandwinton.org.uk
w: glenmoorandwinton.org.uk

Glenmoor & Winton Academies is part of United Learning. United Learning comprises: UCST (Registered in England No: 2780748. Charity No. 1016538) and ULT (Registered in England No. 4439859. An Exempt Charity). Companies limited by guarantee. VAT number 834 8515 12. Registered address: United Learning, Worldwide House, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough, PE3 6SB.



Swindon & Wiltshire
Teaching School Hub
Part of United Learning



PiXL
Partners in excellence



Behaviour
HUBS

Sparx Maths