

Attendance & Punctuality in the Sixth Form

In the event of an absence a phone call from the parent/carer to the Sixth Form Attendance Officer (direct line: 020 7482 8207) with a message is required on the morning of absence. Alternatively, an email can be sent directly to the Attendance Officer on sixthformattendance@csg.school. Subsequent illness of five days needs to be validated by a medical certificate. Any persistent non-attendance may result in referral to the school nurse or even exclusion.

Attendance must be no less than 96% in an academic year.

Lessons are of vital importance as you work through the curriculum with your teachers and develop the skills necessary to perform well in the exams and in the coursework components. If you miss any of these you will have significant gaps in your learning. Tutor time and assemblies are mandatory and should not be missed as these are times when tutors track pupil progress and extend their learning beyond the confines of the curriculum. This means that hospital, dental, optician appointments, driving lessons and sessions to interview people for projects should not normally take place when lessons are timetabled. If you are going to be absent because of a visit or field study for other subjects then inform your other teachers. It is your responsibility to copy up notes, obtain work sheets and see whether work has been set.

The following are examples of reasons for absence which would be acceptable:

- Medical/hospital/dental appointment unable to be organised outside school time supported by an appointment card or letter
- University interviews supported with a letter or other evidence
- Interviews with proof
- Bereavement/funeral of family or close friend
- Work Experience arranged or agreed by school
- Court appearance, probation meeting or appointment with Connexions personal advisor
- Representing school/county/country at sport or other extra-curricular activity
- School planned or authorised trips
- Sitting external examinations
- Driving test
- Genuine disruption to the student's mode of transport with supporting evidence
- Infrequent/emergency care required for a member of the family or other person for whom the student has caring responsibilities
- Religious holiday (applied for in advance)
- National Union of Students official business
- Territorial Army or cadet events

The following reasons for absence would not be acceptable:

- Driving lessons
- Holidays taken during term-time
- Part-time job, including training associated with part-time job, which is not part of the student's course programme
- "Personal problems" unless supported by Pastoral Care Staff
- Non-emergency appointments
- Sleeping in or missing train/bus
- Family excursions, leisure activities, birthdays, etc.

- Minor aches and pains
- Working at home so missed tutor time/assembly/lesson
- Frequent care for sibling/relative, unless alternative arrangements made for continuing the curriculum
- **MUSIC FESTIVALS and other excursions should be strictly limited to holiday time**

A foreseen absence should be reported to the Sixth Form Attendance Officer. **Verification from a parent/guardian or an appointment card/letter is required to authorise any absence.**

Where an absence genuinely could not be foreseen in advance and a parent/guardian is unavailable, the student should make arrangements to notify the Attendance Officer as soon as possible on the day in question that they will be missing classes. **Students cannot self-certify an absence** unless they can provide an appointment card or letter.

The school will **not** automatically accept repeated sickness as a reason for authorised absence.

Attendance

Attendance in lessons, assembly and tutor times is registered electronically by subject teachers and tutors. The tutor will follow up any absences.

If lateness or absence continues without authorisation the student will have an interview with their Head of Year and parents will be informed.

Persistent absence can be a reason for exclusion.

Punctuality

Students who are more than 10 minutes late will not be allowed into lessons as it is too disruptive. Late students will be given work and sent to the library or Sixth Form quiet study area to complete the work.

Students will be expected to return to their lesson five minutes before the end of the period to collect any homework set. Students will also have to attend an after school detention on the following Wednesday.

Persistent lateness can be a reason for exclusion.

Signing out during lesson time

Students who feel unwell and wish to go home or have an approved appointment during lesson time must sign out in the Sixth Form Office before leaving. (This is not only essential for our attendance procedure but is also a Health & Safety requirement in case of fire).

Students wanting to leave in the middle of the day due to illness will need to get permission from their Head of Year before signing out with the Attendance Officer.