The Principal (Mr Wilkinson) is obliged only to permit absence in exceptional circumstances. Time off for holidays does not constitute exceptional circumstances even if these holidays are for significant birthdays of parents, for weddings or because the holiday is only affordable out of season. Absences will be referred to the Educational Welfare Service who will decide if a fine will be applied.

The school expects the children to be in the school building by 8.50am.

We know that life does not always go as planned especially in busy family homes in the morning getting ready for the school day.

School staff are able to signpost support for families if there are ongoing non attendance issues, including attendance meetings with College Leaders and the Attendance Officer (Mrs Crewe). Good attendance is celebrated within the school in a number of ways including assemblies, certificates and through the Carrot Reward Stickers.





Attendance and punctuality @ TGSA



This leaflet provides information explaining the importance of attendance and punctuality within the learning journey of students at TGSA.



Why is school attendance important for my child's education?

As a parent/carer you want the best for your children. Having full time access to a good education is a very important factor in opening up more opportunities in adult life.

Did you know that:

- A child who is absent a day of school per week misses an equivalent of two years of their school life.
- 90% of young people with absence rates below 85% fail to achieve five or more good grades at GCSE and around third achieve no GCSEs at all.
- Poor examination results limit a young person's future options. Poor attendance suggests to colleges and employers that these students are unreliable and disengaged.



Does it really matter?

- Poor school attendance is also closely associated with crime; a quarter of school age offenders have truanted repeatedly.
- At least 1 million children take at least one half day off a year without permission.
- 7.5 million school days are missed each year through unauthorised absence.

GCSEs may seem a long way off for you and your child but all absences at any stage leads to gaps in your child's learning. This in turn can:

- Mean that they fall behind in work
- Affect their motivation
- Affect their enjoyment of learning
- Lead to poor behaviour
- Affect their desire to attend school regularly
- Affect their confidence in school
- Mean that they miss out on the social life of the school and extra-curricular opportunities and the experiences affect their ability to have or keep friendships.

Why is punctuality important for my child's education?

Being on time:

- Gets your day off to a good start and puts you in a positive frame of mind, so that you can make the most of the learning opportunities.
- Sets positive patterns for the future.
 You can't expect to stay in employment or college if you are always arriving to school late.
- Leads to a good attendance record and means that you do not miss any of your learning.
- Leads to a better achievement because you attend the WHOLE of your classes.
- Leads to understanding that school is important and that education is valuable.
- Is respectful to your teacher and to your classmates. It builds good habits for later life.