



Pensby High School

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Headteacher: Mr K Flanagan

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Attendance

Dear Parents and Carers

As you will be aware, at Pensby High School, we set an aspirational attendance target of 95% for all of our students. Regular attendance is essential for not only the overall personal development of students and their preparation for the wider world beyond school, but also for their academic progress.

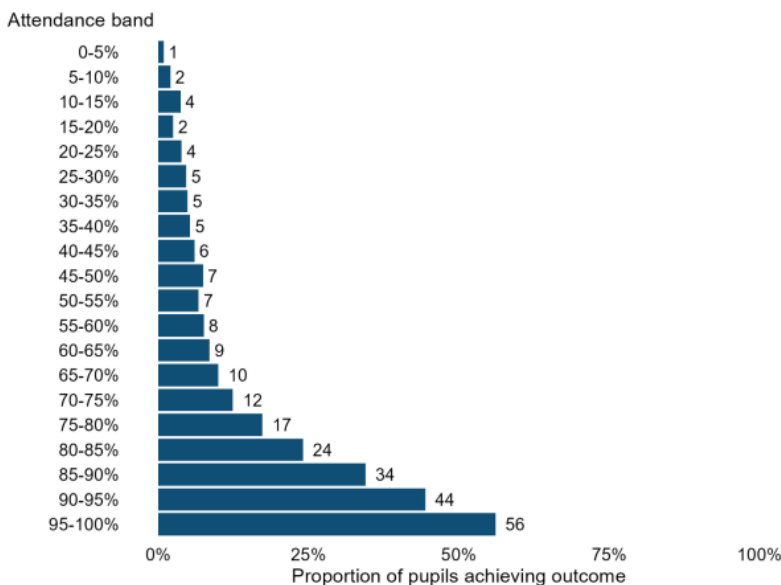
As we know, the academic progress that students make and the grades that they ultimately achieve are influenced by a wide range of factors. With multiple factors at work, it can be difficult to identify how big of an impact any one specific factor has on grades but we know from looking at our own data each year, that good attendance plays a key part in students' success.

Last year, the Department for Education published a report that specifically studied the link between attendance and attainment for both Year 6 and Year 11 students. The report found that, for both year groups, the higher a student's percentage attendance the higher the chances of achieving expected levels in Key Stage 2 SATs or achieving grade 5 in both maths and English GCSE.

The report looked at students in attendance bands of 5% intervals, 0-5%, 5-10%, etc. Across each band of attendance, the general trend was clear; the greater the attendance, the greater the chance of achieving strong passes in both maths and English GCSE.

This trend is demonstrated in the figure below:

Figure 6 Proportion of pupils in each 5% attendance band for Year 11 achieving Grade 5 or above in English and Maths GCSE at the end of KS4



Should you wish to read it, the full DfE report is linked below but it simply reinforces that high levels of attendance are an essential part of students' academic success. At Pensby, our overall attendance figure is consistently above the national average and I would like to thank you for the role that you play in this.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a long horizontal line that curves slightly upwards at the end.

Mr J Clement-Evans

Assistant Headteacher

Link to report:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67c96d7dd0fba2f1334cf2ed/The link between attendance and attainment in an assessment year - March 2025.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67c96d7dd0fba2f1334cf2ed/The_link_between_attendance_and_attainment_in_an_assessment_year_-_March_2025.pdf)