## Kirkby High School

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Headteacher Mrs A Dobson

## Maximising our Potential

Monday 17th November 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to draw your attention to a local campaign, 'Don't Go Missing From School' that has been launched by Knowsley Council to remind parents/carers about the importance of school attendance. This is in response to a current national crisis.

## When a student is absent for one day, they miss five hours of learning.

We continually promote the need for low absence to school because we know, and the research shows, the positive impact low absence has on students' GCSE results and, consequently, their future life chances. Students with high absence will receive worse exam results than their peers and can develop poor working habits related to attendance and punctuality, which can result in losing a job. Furthermore, we know that low absence can promote positive relationships between friendship groups, which is a protective factor for mental health and well-being.

When students miss a day of school, they miss five hours of learning. Lessons are taught in a sequence and, when a child misses one lesson, they will find the next lesson difficult because they will have gaps in their knowledge. If a student misses a prolonged period, for example for a week's holiday, the gaps in knowledge will become even bigger. In Year 11, students who miss 10% of learning will underperform on exams and will achieve at least one grade lower than their peers.

Therefore, I am asking for your support to ensure that your child attends school every day and does not miss any hours of learning. Good habits around school attendance must be embedded now to support your child in the future. Thank you to those who continue to ensure their child maximises their potential by attending on time, every day.

If you are struggling with your child's attendance, please contact the attendance team in school so we can support you as soon as possible. For parents of Year 11 students, this is an urgent situation that needs fixing immediately.

Yours faithfully

Mrs A. Dobson

Headteacher

Resilience Kindness Respect Aspiration Confidence





