

Headteacher: Mr A Burton

**Newport Pagnell Campus**  
The Grove  
Newport Pagnell  
MK16 0BJ  
Tel: 01908 210203

**Olney Campus**  
Aspreys  
Olney  
MK46 5LF  
Tel: 01234 717480

Dear Parents/Carers

## Re. Attendance at school

E-mail: [admin@ousedale.org.uk](mailto:admin@ousedale.org.uk)  
[www.ousedale.org.uk](http://www.ousedale.org.uk)

Thank you to those who attended one of the SLT sessions at the recent Tutor evenings (Y11 still to come 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024). At these sessions part of the information revolved around the importance of attendance at school. Pupils should be attending 95%+ of school sessions because we know that there is a clear link between attendance (and behaviour) at school and the progress that pupils make.

Each year we show the following tables to pupils that measure the behaviour and attendance of the 10 highest performing pupils in GCSE exams against the 10 lowest performing. We measure progress, i.e. how well pupils achieve according to their ability, rather than the number of top grade 7s, 8s and 9s achieved.

### GCSE exams 2023:

	Name	Average Grade	P8	Total Achievement Points	Total Behaviour Points	% Attendance
1		7.3	2.969	180	0	99.4
2		7.6	2.866	114	0	100
3		7	2.669	107	1	96.4
4		8.6	2.616	46	0	99.4
5		6.4	2.604	124	0	92.5
6		7.5	2.507	161	2	93.8
7		6.3	2.504	119	4	98.1
8		7.95	2.459	88	1	96.1
9		8.4	2.416	108	0	96.1
10		8.6	2.353	185	0	96.8
Average		7.565	2.5963	123.2	0.8	96.86

	Name	Average Grade	P8	Total Achievement Points	Total Behaviour Points	% Attendance
1		2.45	-1.882	70	29	80.8
2		4.1	-1.884	57	52	86.4
3		4.1	-1.884	78	65	94.2
4		4.9	-2.121	165	21	100
5		2.28	-2.234	95	61	84.7
6		0.2	-2.358	21	19	64.9
7		3.6	-2.384	82	46	87.9
8		1.9	-2.432	87	93	87.7
9		2.2	-2.793	85	39	88.9
10		0.4	-4.199	5	0	3.6
Average		2.613	-2.4171	74.5	42.5	77.91

### GCSE results 2024:

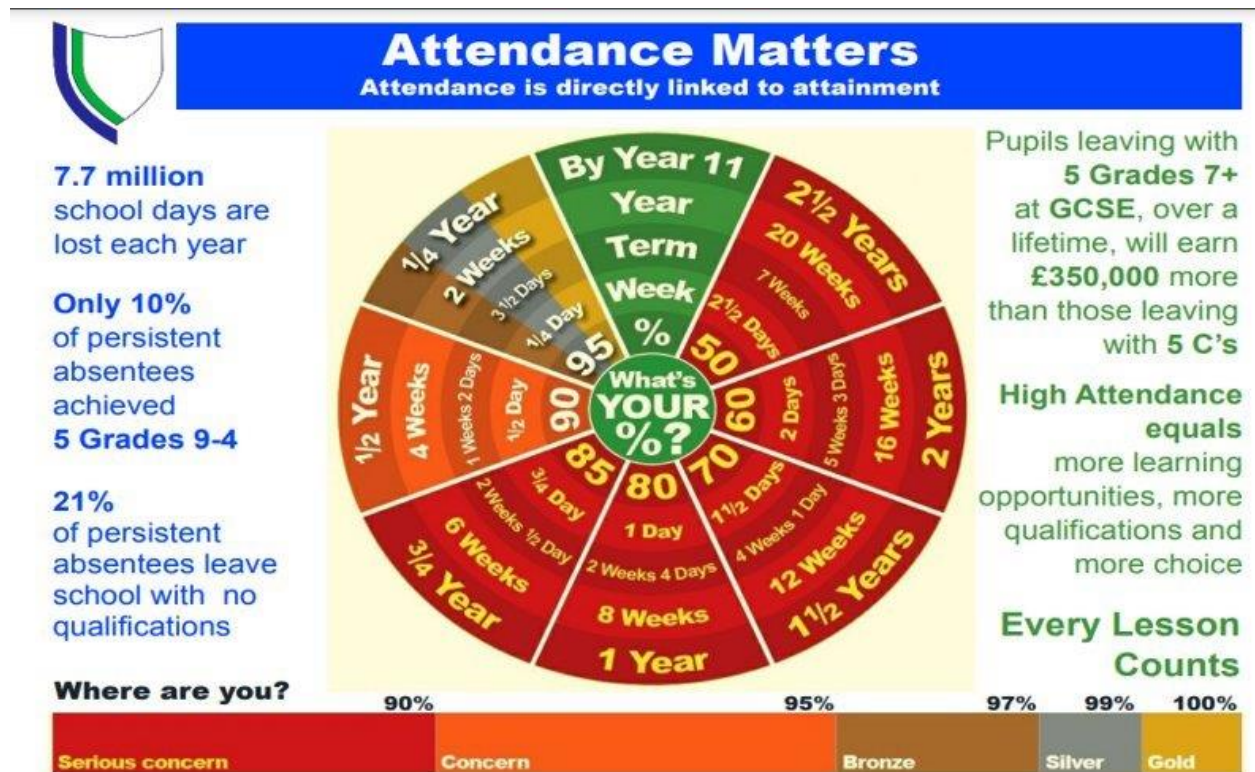
	Name	Average Point Score	Progress 8	Positive Behaviour Points	Negative Behaviour Points	Attendance %
1		7.91	4.318	126	0	100
2		8.45	2.945	229	0	95.2
3		6.92	2.698	265	0	99.6
4		8.17	2.645	155	-1	100
5		6.41	2.617	282	-15	98.4
6		6.91	2.568	253	0	100
7		6.82	2.53	219	0	94
8		7.33	2.492	176	-4	98
9		7.14	2.492	329	0	97.2
10		5.59	2.46	691	0	100
Average		7.165	2.7765	272.5	-2	98.24

	Name	Average Point Score	Progress 8	Positive Behaviour Points	Negative Behaviour Points	Attendance %
1		0	-4.178	3	0	0
2		2	-3.884	8	-9	4
3		5.75	-3.652	6	0	21.8
4		3.8	-3.555	5	0	10.7
5		1.14	-2.884	20	0	2.8
6		1.4	-2.87	54	-100	83.3
7		4.43	-2.611	43	-1	14.3
8		0.14	-2.53	27	-5	8.7
9		2.5	-2.486	68	-18	87.3
10		2.38	-2.432	45	-36	97.3
Average		2.354	-3.1082	27.9	-16.9	33.02

In both 2023 and 2024 the 'Green' highest performing pupils on average achieved nearly 3 grades higher than their targets in all their GCSEs, the lowest performing pupils were nearly 3 grades below target in each of their GCSEs. Why? Well, you can see that the highest

performing pupils had much higher average attendance than the 10 lowest performing pupils in both years, and their behaviour was better. The correlation is stark, but not surprising.

Nationally this is also true as the following chart shows:



Even with a 95% attendance rate this equates to 2 weeks absence from school every year; by Year 11 a 95% attending pupil will have missed total of a quarter of a year of schooling. It is clear why low attendance equates to lower outcomes.

There is also new national guidance that all schools must follow in relation to unauthorised absence and fines for parents. Fixed Penalty Notices (fines) will be considered when a child has missed ten or more sessions (five days) due to unauthorised absence in a period of ten school weeks. In September 2024, Penalty Notices charged to parents rose to £80 (if paid within 21 days) or £160 (if paid within between 22 and 28 days). Where a penalty notice is unpaid, legal action will be pursued. Being late to school after registration counts as an unauthorised absence. PLEASE NOTE: It is not the school/trust issuing penalty notices to parents, and any monies generated from these fines remain within the Local Authority. A leaflet that helps to explain this is attached.

You can monitor your child's attendance and behaviour, both positive and negative, at any stage via the ClassCharts app. If you have lost access to this, please do contact the school and we can reset your access to it. If your child feels a 'bit off' or 'under the weather' please send them into school anyway. If they don't improve and really feel ill we will contact you via the school's medical rooms.

Thank you for your continued support

Regards

**Andy Burton**  
Headteacher Ousedale School



# ATTENDANCE

# WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

WITH EFFECT FROM 19 AUGUST 2024



Nottingham  
City Council

I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

# 1

# £160



## FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN

# 2



+£160



+£160



+£160



+£160

4 children & 1 parent = £640

Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

# 3

# 10

IN

# 10

## IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised, the school will consider prosecution.

# 1

DAY =

# 2

SESSIONS

## FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS



+£160



+£160



+£160



+£160



4 children & 2 parents = £1280

Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

# 4

If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

# 5



### 2ND TIME

2 parents and...

1 child - £320

2 children = £640

3 children = £960

4 children = £1280

No discount for early payment

### 3RD TIME

A penalty notice fine will not be given.

Your case will be taken to court.

A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child.

1 parent & 4 children = £10,000

2 parents & 4 children = £20,000



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT



[gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance)