



28 September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Attendance and the Impact on What Your Child Will Achieve at The Redhill Academy**

We have done an analysis of attendance and the results achieved by Year 11 students in the summer exams in 2022 and 2023. The pattern is clear: students who had an attendance of 95% or higher achieved almost an entire grade higher in each subject and significantly higher than students at other schools. This shows that when students have good attendance at The Redhill Academy, they achieve highly and do very well. Good attendance is also proven to enhance wellbeing through improved confidence and self-esteem.

To achieve 95% attendance students must attend wherever possible and should only be absent rarely and for genuine reasons. When students had attendance below 95%, their achievement and progress drops significantly. This clearly shows that good attendance dramatically affects the outcomes students achieve which will affect their future, including destinations on leaving school and future earnings.

We regard 'good' attendance as being at least 98%. We enjoy celebrating a wide range of successes in school with students, including rewarding those who have 100% attendance and those who have good attendance. We will, as always, be rewarding those students who meet these thresholds through a range of activities and rewards during the school year. One of which is a weekly draw for students to win a pass to the front of the dinner queue; this has proven to be very popular among students. Further rewards for 2023-24 academic year are planned, in consultation with the student leadership team.

Please send your child to school every day. If they are reluctant, challenge them, encourage them, remind them of the benefits of achieving well in their future lives. NHS guidance states that it is fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or cold. If students are ill during the school day, they should tell a member of staff and not contact parents themselves. Staff will act accordingly, and I assure you that if your child is ill and needs to go home, a member of our pastoral team will contact you.

Please refrain from taking holidays during term time. We are working with the local authority and there are penalties for families taking unauthorised holidays during term time. This means, if you take a holiday without the headteacher's consent, you may be fined. We understand the financial challenges of holidays in school holiday windows, however, the law is clear, and we will, as always, follow national guidance.

If you are concerned about your child's attendance and would like to discuss support that is available, please contact our attendance team on [attendance@theredhillacademy.org.uk](mailto:attendance@theredhillacademy.org.uk) or call the academy reception on 0115 926 1481.

Yours faithfully

Mike Hardy  
Headteacher