



Sixth Sense

Which Week?

This Week: Monday 15th Jan 2024 (Week 2)

Next Week: Monday 22nd Jan (Week 1)

Week 2: January 2024 BTEC Tests

Please find a January overview for the upcoming series of BTEC external assessments, that began last week for our BTEC Health and Social Care and Sport and Exercise Science students.

January	Exam Title	Time	Length of exam	Room
15/01/2024	BTEC Sport and Exercise Science - Unit 2: Functional Anatomy	9am	1hr 30 mins	GYM
17/01/2024	BTEC Sport and Exercise Science - UNIT 1: SPORT AND EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY	9am	1hr 30 mins	GYM
18/01/2024	BTEC Health and Social Care - UNIT 3: ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY FOR H&SC	9am	1hr 30 mins	A112/D016

Attendance High Five!

Attendance is a key variable that we place great value within. It is something that allows for a continuity of learning and, by extension of this, better outcomes/qualifications as a consequence of 'getting out what you put in'.

The Academy has just launched our new **5 out of 5 Attendance Challenge** for this half term. We want to recognise those that are attending regularly and highlight their positive impact on the Academy.

- ⇒ This half term consists of 5 weeks, and each week we will reward those with 100% attendance
- ⇒ Students with a full week's attendance, will be entered into a prize draw for a £10 voucher (per college).
- ⇒ Students who attend for all 5 weeks, will also be entered into an additional prize draw to receive a £50 voucher.



Alongside this, we want to celebrate the success of those students who have consistently demonstrated regular attendance through our different coloured attendance badges:

- ◇ Bronze badge for 100% attendance in one term
- ◇ Silver badge for 100% attendance in two terms
- ◇ Gold badge for 100% attendance for the whole academic year.

We aspire for you all to realise these successes, to feel the absolute benefit of this continuity of learning and development of progress all as a result of simply attending!

UCAS for Year
13: Last Call!!!

UCAS

The final deadline for applications to UCAS is the **end of January 2024**.

For those of you who are registered on the system and still intend on applying, PLEASE focus on completing this as a matter of urgency!

If you require ANY support, please contact with Miss King (SuzKing@kingshurst.tgacademy.org.uk) or Mr Bowers (jbowers@kingshurst.tgacademy.org.uk).

Retake Reboot

Retake MATHS and ENGLISH lessons **restart as of Monday this week**. For those of you retaking this subject, please remember that your **retake lessons take place EVERY MORNING** (except assembly days) in the following rooms.

English: Common Room / Maths: D211

Let's commit to the process fully over this term to get this elusive grade in the Summer exams! You **CAN** do it!!!



Aspire, Attend, Achieve: Attendance and Punctuality Newsletter

Students need to attend academy regularly to benefit from their education. Students with the highest attainment at the end of Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared to those with the lowest attainment. For the most vulnerable students, regular attendance is also an important protective factor and the best opportunity for needs to be identified and support provided.

Taken from the DFE 'Working together to improve academy attendance' 2022

Pages 2 and 3 offers transparent and essential advice and guidance as to how the academy manages attendance, the impact of days lost, how guidance as to how we are required to treat variety of types of common reasons for absence.



Aspire, Attend, Achieve

Attendance and Punctuality Newsletter
Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst



Why is good attendance and punctuality important?

Education lays the vital foundations of a child's life. Regular and punctual attendance at academy is key to both academic and social development, which in turn will improve the life chances of children and young people.

It's your responsibility

Parents and carers have a legal duty to ensure that their children attend academy regularly and punctually in order to optimise their learning, achieve the best they can and get the most out of their academy experience. Failure to do so is an offence under section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996.

If a child is registered at a academy, they must by law attend that academy regularly and punctually. Children should only miss academy if they are ill or unable to attend for some other unavoidable reason.

Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst believe attendance is a shared responsibility, involving the whole academy community and local community. We will work with families to early identify the reasons for poor attendance and try to resolve any difficulties.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

Understanding types of absence coding

It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to authorise any child's absence from academy. Therefore, absences will be treated as unauthorised until the academy is satisfied that it should be authorised.

Parents/carers cannot authorise absences and should be aware that while calling the academy or providing a note for an absence complies with safeguarding procedures, it does not automatically mean an absence will be

Medical or dental appointments

Parents/carers should make every effort to ensure these appointments are made outside of academy hours. Where it cannot be avoided, children should attend academy for as much of the appointment day as possible.

LATENESS = LOST LEARNING

(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

5 minutes late each day	3 days lost!
10 minutes late each day	6.5 days lost!
15 minutes late each day	10 days lost!
20 minutes late each day	13 days lost!
30 minutes late each day	19 days lost!

Illness

Most cases of absence due to illness are short term, but parents/carers will need to make a phone call to alert the academy on each day of absence. In some cases, the academy will require medical evidence such as a note from the child's doctor, an appointment card or a prescription paper.

Whilst any child may be off academy because they are ill, sometimes they can be reluctant to attend academy. Any problems with regular attendance are best sorted out between the academy, the parents and the child. If a parent thinks their child is reluctant to attend academy, then we will work with that family to understand the root problem.

Persistent Absence

A pupil becomes a 'persistent absentee' when they miss 10% or more days across the academy year for whatever reason. Absence at this level is doing considerable damage to a child's education and we need parent's full support and co-operation to tackle this.

We monitor all absence and the reasons given thoroughly. Any case that is seen to have reached the persistent absence mark or is at risk of moving towards this will then be discussed with the college team and families.

Religious observance

Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst recognises that there may be times where children of different faiths observe religious festivals that fall outside of academy holidays and weekends and will allow authorised absence for these times. Parent/carers will be aware of these dates and should give the academy written notification in advance.

Unauthorised absence

Examples of types of absence that are not considered reasonable and which will not be authorised under any circumstances are:

- Going shopping, birthdays
- Looking after other younger children in the family
- Staying at home because other members in the family are unwell
- Day trips and holidays in term time that have not been agreed
- Arriving at academy too late to get a present mark
- Truancy
- Haircut
- To get new shoes or uniform

Term time leave

This academy's policy is not to authorise leave for any child/ren during term time. Any applications for leave in term time must be made in writing to the Principal.

There is no automatic right to term time leave of absence, and your request is likely to be declined except in the most exceptional circumstances. Each application will be considered on its own merit, and the attendance record(s) of the child/ren concerned may also be taken into account when making a decision.

Please refer to our Attendance and Punctuality policy for further information and request a form from the office, should you feel that you have grounds for an exceptional leave of absence to be considered.

How can parents/carers help their child have good attendance and punctuality?

As part of our whole-academy approach to maintaining high attendance, we request that parents/carers:

- Notify the academy by telephone on the first day that their pupil is unavailable to attend.
- Confirm this in writing when the pupil returns.
- Avoid making medical/dental appointments during the academy day.
- Do not take children out of academy during term time and in the case of exceptional circumstances permission must be granted by the Headteacher.
- Promote the value of excellent attendance at home and follow the procedures set by the academy.
- Advise the academy of any difficulties they may be having so that support can be provided as appropriate.
- Are aware that Section 444 of the Education Act states, *'If a pupil of compulsory academy age who is a registered pupil fails to attend academy regularly, his/her parent is guilty of an offence.'*

Some strategies to improve punctuality

Bedtime routines

- Encourage children to pack their bag before going to bed, ready for the next day.
- Getting to bed earlier.
- Setting a time for a television, iPad, computer, mobile phone, and other devices to be turned off.

Morning routines

- Setting the alarm for a time that allows all morning routines to be carried out without making them late.
- Having breakfast before leaving home, so there is no need to call in at the shop on the way to academy.
- Encourage them to leave home at least five minutes earlier than they think they