

11<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we find ourselves and our local community becoming less impacted by the Covid pandemic and the associated disruptions caused over the last two years, we felt it would be the right time to reinforce our expectations around our students' attendance. Our academy attendance target remains at 96% or higher as this level of attendance in the academy will offer students the best possible chances of success.

Understandably, Covid related illnesses have had a significant impact on some students' attendance and with government guidelines, this could not be avoided. However, we must stress that wherever possible, children must attend the academy, even if they are feeling a little under the weather or have a runny nose. Our students, your children, have missed enough of their education over the last two years and every day, every lesson, counts in helping them succeed on their educational journey with us at SUA. Attendance of 90% represents almost 100 lessons of missed learning across the course of an academic year and we are sure you will agree that has the potential to be a limiting factor in their outcomes.

Of course, sometimes children are simply too ill to attend the academy and absence is unavoidable, but wherever possible we ask you to support us in our commitment to securing excellent attendance, resulting in maximum learning time for all of our students. When a student's attendance becomes a concern our attendance officer, Mr Arries, will start working with families. If attendance falls below 90% we have a duty to inform the local authority's education welfare officer who will then explore statutory action which could result in a fine, or even pursue court proceedings. This is the last thing we want for any of our families so we would appreciate your support in getting your children to the academy each day.

As ever, thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact us on [info@suacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@suacademy.co.uk) or by calling 01543 224700.

Kind regards,

Scott Williams  
Assistant Principal

