

# Barlby Bulletin Newsletter - Attendance

## June 2025



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A warm welcome to the Barlby Bulletin. The focus for this half term is Attendance.

### **Moments Matter, Attendance Counts**

You may be aware of the government campaign to highlight the importance of school attendance.

The campaign is targeted at preventable odd days of absence, or “avoidable absence”, which for example might be linked to coughs and colds and mild anxiety. It is not aimed at parents of children who face greater barriers to attendance, such as pupils with long-term medical conditions or special educational needs and disabilities. We will continue to support these students with an individualised approach.

### **Why Every Moment Counts**

Every day, every lesson presents a unique moment of opportunity for learning. It is a chance to engage with new ideas, to collaborate with peers, and to build upon and embed the knowledge gained in the lesson before. The cumulative effect of these moments is what shapes each pupil's academic journey. Research consistently shows that regular attendance is a critical factor in educational success.

### **The link between attendance and attainment is clear:**

36% of persistent absentees (90% attendance or less) achieve 9-4 in Maths and English compared to 84% of regular attenders

### **It's never too late to benefit from good attendance:**

More than half (54%) of pupils who were PA in Year 10 and then rarely absent in Year 11, passed at least 5 GCSEs, compared to 36% of pupils who were persistently absent in both years.

### **But attendance is important for more than just attainment:**

Regular school attendance can facilitate positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing.



# Is my child too ill for school?

Below is the NHS guidance for some most common childhood illnesses. Please use the link at the bottom of this page for further guidance and information about other illnesses.

## Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor [cough](#) or [common cold](#). But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

## High temperature

If your child has a [high temperature](#), keep them off school until it goes away.

## Chickenpox

If your child has [chickenpox](#), keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

## Cold sores

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have a [cold sore](#).

Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.

## Conjunctivitis

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have [conjunctivitis](#).

Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

## Head lice and nits

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice.

You can treat [head lice and nits](#) without seeing a GP.

## Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a [sore throat](#). But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.

## Vomiting and diarrhoea

Children with [diarrhoea or vomiting](#) should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).

For full details please visit the NHS website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

# Absences at Barlby High School

## Authorised Absences

An authorised absence is when the school has given approval for an absence. Where possible parents should attempt to arrange non-school activities outside of the school day. Parents should contact school via telephone or edulink before 8:30am on the day of absence if it is an unplanned absence E.g. illness. If it is a planned absence please complete our absence request form which can be found [HERE](#)

Examples of authorised absences include:

- A medical appointment
- A family bereavement and/or attendance at a funeral
- A religious observance
- A visit to a college, either to attend an open day or for an interview
- A careers interview
- An appointment with a Youth & Family Support Service personal advisor/CAMHS/MIND counsellor
- Sporting competitions
- Examinations
- Performing Arts examinations

## Term Time Holidays

You are required under the Education Act (1996) to ensure your child attends school regularly. Legislation came into effect on 1 September 2013 which means there is no longer a provision in law for Headteachers to authorise an absence for the purpose of a term time holiday other than in a very limited set of exceptional circumstances.

For any term time holiday requests please complete our absence request form which can be found [HERE](#)

Did you know the national average attendance for school children in England is 93.3%?

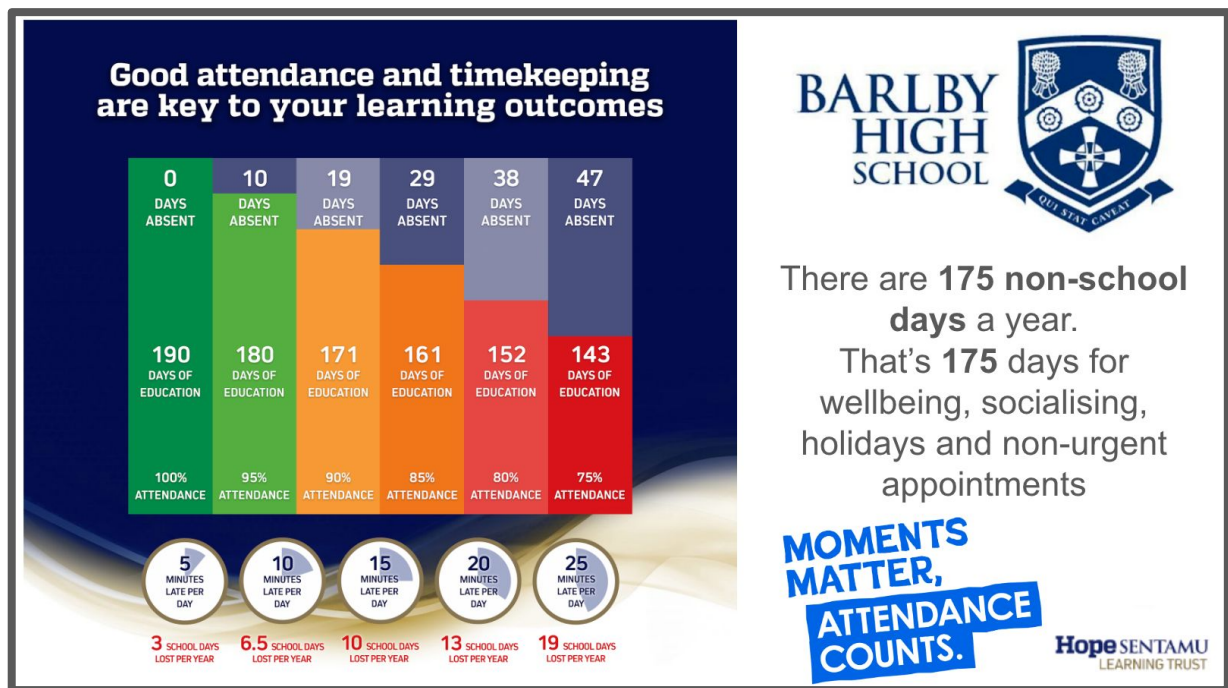
You can access your child's attendance on Edulink at any time.

How does your child compare?

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

# Supporting attendance at Barlby High

- Tutor first approach - each week students discuss their attendance with tutors
- Attendance posters in classrooms and around the school
- Weekly form competition with prizes
- Termly attendance certificates
- Designated Attendance officer
- Bespoke support for students who have medical or mental health concerns that affect their attendance
- The Well Being In Mind Team support students with school related anxiety



If you have any questions regarding attendance please contact Mrs Tanner-Smith, Assistant Vice Principal Student Welfare

[s.tanner-smith@bhs.hlt.academy](mailto:s.tanner-smith@bhs.hlt.academy)

**MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.**