



Atlantic Academy Portland

an Aspirations Academy

Miss Heppell - Principal of Primary
Mrs Bishop - Principal of Secondary

Maritime House
Southwell Business Park
Portland, Dorset. DT5 2NA

Tel: 01305 820262
Email: Office@atlantic-aspirations.org

www.atlantic-aspirations.org

5th March 2024

Dear Parent/ Carer and Students

Attendance matters

I am writing to inform you about a new initiative that we are launching with our Secondary phase students to recognise and reward student attendance which we are calling 'attendance streaks'.

There is a very strong connection between attendance, academic progress, and overall well-being. Data from the latest GCSE exam results highlights that students with attendance rates below 90%, spanning all years and not limited to Year 11, achieve at least one grade lower across their GCSEs compared to those with attendance above 90%.

90% attendance translates to approximately 19 days off a year. **Attendance matters.**

Getting into the habit of daily attendance is vital to success in the academy. It helps to:

- Reduce stress by ensuring learning is not broken or disrupted
- Build positive and meaningful relationships with friends, teachers and other staff
- Support learning by not missing key knowledge or skills development
- Reduces safeguarding risks such as exploitation in the community or the risk of becoming NEET (Not in education, employment or training) in the future

Attendance streaks

Since students have returned to the academy after the February half term we have been recording and celebrating their attendance by counting the number of consecutive days they have attended. This will create their 'streak'. A new streak will begin if a student is absent. We hope this will motivate students and recognise their commitment, engagement and resilience.

Students will be rewarded for their longest streaks and it is excellent to see that many have already reached streaks of 12 days.





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Streak rewards:

Longest streak	Reward
20 days	100 positives + badge and a lucky dip
40 days	150 positives + badge and free hot drink
60 days	200 positives + badge and free lunch
80 day	250 positives + badge and voucher

These tariffs and rewards will be reviewed by the student council via student voice moving forward, following this pilot which lasts until the end of the Academic Year.

As always, if your child seems anxious about attending the academy, please let us know so that we can find a way to help.

Our attendance team can be contacted via the school contact forms www.atlantic-aspirations.org/about-us/contact-forms/ or on 01305 820262 if you need help in supporting your child's attendance or have other questions or concerns that need addressing.

Thank you for supporting us to make sure your child learns, thrives and succeeds.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Clark

Lead Practitioner