



Manor Community College

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Attendance facts:

- ◆ Each year there are only 190 statutory College days. This means there are 175 days left for shopping, birthday treats, non-urgent medical and dental appointments, holidays, etc.
- ◆ If a child is absent from College for 16 days in a year, taking holidays into account, they are out of College more often than they are in College.
- ◆ At Manor Community College, we expect at least a 95% and wherever possible 100% attendance from all our students to attain maximum achievement.
- ◆ A Student's achievement is directly linked to their attendance.

National 2002-2003 GCSE results:

Pupils with 6.5% absence (or less) averaged 75% A*-C grades.

Pupils with 11% absence (or more) averaged 25% A*-C grades. (Source: DCSF)

The difference between 6.5% and 11% is 4.5% - just 8.5 days in the school year. This means that the average number of A*-C grades of a pupil drops by 50%, if they have 21 days off (or more) compared with 12 days off (or less).

Legislation:

"The parent is responsible for making sure that their child of compulsory school age receives efficient full-time education that is suitable to the child's age, ability, aptitude, and to any special needs the child may have. This can be regular attendance at school or by education elsewhere."

Section 7, Education Act 1996.

"If a child of compulsory school age who is registered at a school fails to attend regularly at the school, then the parent is guilty of an offence"

Section 44 (1), Education Act 1996.

90% Attendance

- ◆ Means: ½ day off College per week
- ◆ This equals 4 weeks of learning lost per year
- ◆ By the end of Year 9 this equals 12 weeks of learning lost
- ◆ By GCSE Half a year of learning is lost, the student lost ½ year of learning.

Remember to:

Ring the Attendance team on 01223 508742 daily before 9 o'clock, when your child is not attending College or e-mail us on: attendance@manorcc.org.uk.

Some of the effects that absence can have:

- ◆ Academic underachievement
- ◆ Impaired ability to socialise
- ◆ Loss of friends
- ◆ Loss of confidence



- ◆ Disruption to classes
- ◆ Resentment from good attendees
- ◆ Students who fall behind may develop poor behaviour
- ◆ Damaging to college discipline
- ◆ Difficulties in catching up with missed work
- ◆ Difficult to build staff-student relationships
- ◆ Unacceptable behaviour in the local community.

Attendance Fact:

“Only 8 % of truants Achieve 5 A* - C GCSEs and 30% achieve no passes at all.”

(Source: DCSF)

Remember:

Authorisation of absence of the student is at the discretion of the College not the parents. In some cases proof of absence may be required (such as a doctor’s note)

Some reasons why students may not attend:

- ◆ Parents’ failure to value education
- ◆ Poor relationships with other students
- ◆ Disruptive behaviour in classes
- ◆ Anxiety over primary-secondary transition
- ◆ Anxiety over the complexity of secondary school
- ◆ Fear of returning to College
- ◆ Not wanting to get into trouble
- ◆ Opportunism – internal truanting
- ◆ To avoid tests/exams
- ◆ Bravado
- ◆ Peer pressure
- ◆ Social isolation
- ◆ Trouble at home
- ◆ Laziness
- ◆ Children acting as carers
- ◆ Domestic violence
- ◆ Parents’ working hours
- ◆ Cannot afford uniform/equipment

If you need help with any of these, please ask us. Please respond to truancy call, this is monitored daily and a record is kept.



Family Holidays during Term Time

The majority of family holidays taken during term time will be categorised as unauthorised absence. There are rare circumstances when College will authorise a family holiday such as after a serious illness or bereavement

College will not authorise any holidays taken for other reason such as:

- ◆ cheap flights
- ◆ cheap accommodation
- ◆ better weather
- ◆ Extra days off at beginning and end of term

To:

All Parents and College-age children

No education — No future — No excuse!
It's your choice
Good attendance = better chances = better choices

Holidays are fine, but not in term time! Please plan to take your holiday during the 175 non-teaching days in the year.

Best Wishes,

J Collings
Vice Principal
Manor Community College

Queries?

Contact: Mrs Collings or the Attendance Officer on 01223 508742 ext. 217