



January 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

At the start of the new term I want to take the opportunity to remind you of the importance of positive attendance. In order for students to learn, achieve and be active members of our school community they must aim to attend school every day if at all possible. At Sharples we recognise the impact of positive attendance on learning outcomes and we set ourselves high standards in relation to it. For 2017-18, our whole school target for attendance is to exceed 96% and every student has an important part to play in helping us to achieve this goal.

Attendance at school really matters and recent DfE research concludes that, “there is a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower academic achievement.”

This term we will continue our drive to maintain high levels of attendance. Next week, year group assemblies will be led by Mrs Khan who will introduce a new system of weekly, half-termly and termly rewards for individuals who achieve 100% attendance. We will also be rewarding the form group within each year which maintains the best record of attendance.

As a school, we do recognise that **exceptional circumstances** arise which may mean that a student has to be absent from school and we will take these instances into account, on an individual basis, when deciding who gains access to attendance based rewards.

I am sure you will agree that positive attendance at school is crucial and I would appreciate your on-going support on this important issue.

Yours faithfully

Ms A Webster
Headteacher

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