

12 January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

As we begin the new term I would like to wish you a belated happy New Year.

I would ask as we begin the new term that we have a renewed focus on attendance. As you can see from the attached diagram on attendance and punctuality, any attendance less than 95% impacts on a student's attainment:



**MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.**

Please ensure you son or daughter is in school unless there is a serious reason. If they are just feeling a little unwell, send them in and we will keep an eye on them. Over the next few weeks, either through a text or at parents evening we will inform you of current attendance and the number of broken weeks of learning if that applies.

## Parallel Histories

Many congratulations to the Year 9 students who took part in the parallel histories debate event with other schools just before the Christmas holidays. The feedback from the students and the organisers was really positive and hopefully this is something they will be able to engage with again in the future.



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Headteacher Mr A Waller, MA, BA Hons  
Deputy Headteacher Miss A Jordinson, BSc Hons

### Year 11 Mock exams

Mock exams continue all next week. Please ensure students are using time at home sensibly to revise and prepare for exams. Year 11 have now had 16 weeks of teaching time and there are only 13 teaching weeks left before the summer exams begin in earnest – with lots of coursework and practical deadlines before that. All year 11 should be engaged in 2 hours work outside the classroom, each day, to be revising and preparing for the summer if they are to maximise their chances.

### Sixth Form Taster Day

AKS Lytham have a taster day for prospective Sixth Form students in current year 11 on Tuesday January 30<sup>th</sup>. Please see the attached flyer which has a QR code to register interest.

### Winter Illness Prevention

Please see message below which we have been asked to share with you from the Government Prevention, Infection and Control Team, offering parents back to school advice amid rising levels of winter illness.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-reminds-parents-of-back-to-school-advice?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm\\_source=d2897b05-876e-4b17-96d6-0a01fa2e1827&utm\\_content=daily](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-reminds-parents-of-back-to-school-advice?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=d2897b05-876e-4b17-96d6-0a01fa2e1827&utm_content=daily)

### Dates this half term

- SEN Drop in Wednesday January 17<sup>th</sup> from 2.30-6pm – please make appointments via reception;
- Year 8 Parents Evening – Thursday January 18<sup>th</sup>. A separate letter has been sent to Year 8 Parents & Carers;
- Polymaths Group Awards Event – Thursday January 25<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. A separate letter has been sent to those involved;
- Year 10 Parents Evening – Thursday February 1<sup>st</sup>
- SHINE: mental health coffee morning for Parents/Carers – Tuesday February 6<sup>th</sup> at 9.30am
- Pastoral & Pupil Premium Drop in – Wednesday February 7<sup>th</sup> from 3.30-6pm – please make appointments via reception;
- Half term: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February

Yours faithfully



Mr A Waller  
Headteacher