



Malbank School & Sixth Form College

Rejoice in being the best that we can be.

22.4.25 Supporting School Attendance in the Final Term

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we begin the final term of the academic year, I want to take a moment to highlight the importance of student attendance and to ask for your support in ensuring that your child is in school every day. Attendance is one of the key factors that influences student achievement, and the evidence is clear: students with attendance above 95% are significantly more likely to achieve their expected grades or better, while those with lower attendance often find themselves struggling to keep up. Furthermore, regular attendance is strongly linked to positive wellbeing, as it provides routine, social engagement, and access to essential learning and support.

We fully appreciate the financial pressures families face and the temptation to book holidays during term time due to cost differences. However, our school has a very clear policy on term-time holidays (<https://bit.ly/holidaysintertime>) which means that we approve very few requests each academic year. This policy is not in place to punish families but to maintain our high standards for attendance and to ensure that students do not miss crucial learning opportunities. We must apply this policy consistently, which often means upsetting families by refusing requests or issuing fixed penalty notices. While this is never our preferred course of action, we are committed to doing everything we can to support high attendance levels for all students.

We are sending this letter at the start of the final term because our data trends indicate that this is the period when we receive the highest number of holiday requests which we are unable to approve. I want to be very clear from the outset: we expect our students to be in school every day, and while some parents may feel that a holiday has educational benefits, we very rarely, if ever, agree to such requests and would ask that you refrain from booking anything that interferes with your child's all important time at school.

Thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring your child's attendance remains a priority. If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

John Harrison
Headteacher - Malbank School and 6th Form

Headteacher: John D. Harrison B.A. (Hons.)

Welsh Row, Nantwich, Cheshire East, CW5 5HD

admin@malbank.cheshire.sch.uk

01270 611009

malbank.com