

Dear Parents,

We want to draw your attention to the notes in this edition of The Week Ahead with regard to the issue of attendance.

One of the almost universal difficulty with SEN students around the UK is a high level of absenteeism. Many schools report that SEN absenteeism is frequently as high as 40 or 50 percent, and this, of course, undermines the learning of these children. Frequently, the cause involves anxiety and related difficulties, and in many cases this reflects the perception by the SEN child that he/she is viewed as being "different" than their peers.

At CAEA, our absenteeism defies the national percentages, and we think it speaks well for the school, the parents, and, indeed, our students that our overall school average shows that we have better than 90 percent attendance. So, well done!

That said, some of our students nevertheless do encounter difficulty in getting to school on a regular basis. We certainly do not minimize the difficulty that these students have with regard to attendance, and if this is the case with your child, we do stand ready to help. This may involve parent-childschool discussions, and we also have a range of strategies that we are happy to discuss with parents who struggle with the non-attendance issue. If you would care to have a discussion with us or with our SENCo, please feel free to give us a call so that we can make an appointment to explore how we may put into play strategies and the like that may prove fruitful.

Thank you.

Best wishes,

Mrs Kim Salthouse Head of School Dr Duncan Rollo Principal



Friday 15th February 2019 School finishes for half term break at 12.00pm

> Monday 25th February 2019 School Commences

Friday 1st March 2019 Parent Discussion Forum – 2.00pm

> Friday 8th March 2019 Parent Meetings

Friday 5th April 2019 Easter Service – 2.15pm School Finishes 3.00pm



Did you know? 10 MINS LATE EVERY DAY

33 learning hours lost each year! Can your child afford to miss out?

- There is a link between good school attendance and high level attainment.
- Regardless of the reason, if your child is absent from school it will impact on their learning.
 - Parents/Carers are legally responsible for ensuring their child attends school on time every day.

Duke of Edinburgh

Students who are participating in the Duke of Edinburgh this year, please watch out for a letter within the next few weeks regarding a Duke of Edinburgh trip

NOTICES

Students Who Travel by Taxi

Please could parents ensure that their child's taxi is informed if a child is to be absent from school and does not need to be collected by the taxi. It has come to light on a number of occasions that taxis have arrived at the school at the end of the day to collect students to return home. We have had to explain that the child has been collected for medical appointments/or sent home unwell.

Thank you.

School Diaries

Please could all parents check with their children that they have their school diaries. These should have homework assignments written in. Teachers are also checking these diaries to ensure that all parents and students are aware of the demands being made on the children. The diaries are especially helpful in facilitating communication between class tutors and parents.

Sunday boarding arrangements

Please can Parents let Mr Thompson know in advance, either by email at <u>athompson@centreacademy.net</u>, or by phone or text message on 07555 416172. This is so that we have numbers for food on Sunday evening and numbers for pick up from Stowmarket train station. Boarders should either arrive at Centre Academy no earlier than 7pm if coming directly or be picked up from Stowmarket train station.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Boarding House Telephone Numbers:

Mr Thompson can be contacted on the following mobile number during the week, Monday from 8.00 am to Friday 3.00pm. Please can any arrangements for Sunday evening boarding be made in advance prior to 3.00pm on the Friday. The Care Staff do not stay on site at the weekend and will be out of contact during this period.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr Thompson - 07555 416 172

Gentle Reminders:

- If you child requires any medication, please ensure that this is handed into the office or Mrs Beadman. Medication will need to be in its original packet along with the relevant paperwork. The item must be clearly labelled with the students name and the instructions of administration.
- Students must not be sent to school if they have a fever/sickness or are feeling ill. Students should be fever/sickness free for 48 hours before returning to school to protect other students from contact with potentially contagious illnesses. Parents will be contacted by the medical staff on duty if a child shows symptoms of illness while in school.
- Could all students bring stationery in to school for their lessons, e.g. pens/pencils and crayons.
- Please check and sign homework diaries every week; the diaries are a very important tool to communicate with teachers and parents.
- 4 All female students are to wear either trousers or skirts with thick tights when participating in drama lessons or drama activities after school.
- During the summer please ensure your child has sun cream, a sun hat and appropriate glasses with them; all items should be marked with the child's name.

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