



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for all your work supporting getting students back into school for the Summer Term. We had less than 4% of the school population who had any issues regarding their uniform, make-up, eyelashes and jewellery on the first day back last week. All were corrected on the day or on Thursday.

Now that COVID restrictions have been lifted, we return fully to 'regular' school policies. This means **attendance** at school will be a key focus. As we have lost learning time due to lockdowns, bubble closures and COVID infections, it is vital that all effort is focused on ensuring that **every student is in for every day possible**. We give a range of **rewards for students whose attendance is good** (above 98%). Of course, this year, there will be students who have missed at least ten days because of the COVID restrictions, which will take them below 95% for the academic year (as you can see from the table on the attached document). **Good attendance is absolutely crucial for academic achievement**, and we appreciate your help in achieving this for your sons and daughters.

As such, I cannot authorise any holiday taken during term-time. If you feel there is an exceptional reason, one of my colleagues will call you to find out more to allow, us to make our final decision. Further information can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence>. As a parent and a teacher, I know the price of holidays during school holidays is much greater, and I understand that taking a holiday in term-time can be tempting. However, my responsibility is to support our students towards the best outcomes they are capable of, and we know that each day off lessens the chance of great results at GCSE. So again, I really appreciate your support with this matter.

I hope you and your children are able to enjoy some good weather and longer evenings during this summer term.

Kind regards,

Mr Liam Collins  
Principal  
Ark Alexandra Academy

