



4th March 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers

This letter – week beginning 4th March will highlight a key focus of school life, celebrate some weekly success of last week, and look forward to the week ahead at Rockwood Academy.

I am writing to you today to emphasise the critical importance of regular school attendance and to urge our collective efforts in improving attendance rates at our school.

As educators, we firmly believe that consistent attendance is fundamental to your child's academic success, personal development, and future prospects. Each day, Rockwood Academy offers invaluable opportunities for learning, growth, and social interaction that are simply irreplaceable. When students are absent, they miss out on these essential experiences, which can hinder their progress and achievement. We want all our “Rockstars” to achieve academic and personal excellence.

Here are a few key reasons why school attendance is so vital:

Academic Success: Attending school regularly allows students to engage with curriculum content, participate in discussions, and receive direct instruction from teachers. Consistent attendance enhances comprehension, retention, and overall academic performance.

Establishing Routine: Regular attendance helps students establish healthy routines and habits that are essential for success in both academic and professional settings. It instils discipline, responsibility, and time management skills that are invaluable throughout life.

Social and Emotional Development: School provides a crucial environment for social interaction, peer relationships, and emotional growth. Through collaboration, teamwork, and shared experiences, students develop crucial interpersonal skills that are essential for navigating the complexities of the world.

Legal Requirements: Additionally, regular attendance is a legal requirement enforced by education authorities. By ensuring your child attends school consistently, you fulfil your legal obligation as a parent or guardian.

Despite the significance of attendance, we have noticed a concerning trend of absenteeism among some of our students. While we understand that occasional absences due to illness or family emergencies are unavoidable, prolonged, or frequent absences can significantly impact your child's academic progress and overall well-being.

Therefore, I urge you to prioritise your child's attendance and make every effort to ensure they attend school regularly and punctually. If your child is facing any challenges that may affect their attendance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you and your child in overcoming any obstacles and ensuring their continued success. Mr Khan and our pastoral team will continue to make contact with you on a daily basis. Miss R. Dhinsa is our Senior Leader responsible for attendance and can be contacted by phone or by email at r.dhinsa@corerockwood.academy.

Weekly Review:

I would also like to take this opportunity to commend the outstanding efforts of our students and staff over the past week:

A special well done to **Year 10 students** for their exemplary performance during work experience. Your dedication and professionalism are truly commendable.

Congratulations to **Year 9** for their exceptional engagement during the options evening. Your enthusiasm and thoughtful consideration of your future pathways were highly impressive. Additionally, a heartfelt appreciation to our staff for their remarkable efforts in organising such a successful event. If you have any further questions about the options process please contact our Head of Year - Mrs S.Perveen.

s.perveen@corerockwood.academy.

It has been truly pleasing to witness the hard work and dedication of **Year 11** students as they prepare for the final push before their GCSE examinations. We are reminded of the importance of preparation and commitment, which was emphasised during the assembly by myself as Head of School.

A special acknowledgment to our talented Hospitality and Catering students for their remarkable cooking skills demonstrated during the recent assessment. Your culinary expertise beyond your years has been truly impressive, and the food you prepared has been an inspiration to us all, delicious, and delightful.

We are delighted to offer our **KS3 girls** the opportunity to be involved with the LTA as part of a tennis mentoring programme. This initiative showcases our commitment to providing diverse opportunities in sports and nurturing the talents and interests of our students.

A big congratulations to **Year 7** students who have been avid supporters of our newly formed Lego Club, which meets after school every Friday. Your enthusiasm and creativity are truly inspiring.

I also urge all students to take full advantage of our enrichment program. It's a busy school with lots on offer, and our enrichment activities provide valuable opportunities for personal growth, skill development, and exploration of interests outside the classroom.

We are also looking forward to next week:

Year 11 students will collect mock exam results and intervention timetables at our Parents Evening on Thursday. This will provide valuable insights and support as they continue their preparations for the upcoming examinations.

Our **KS4 girls** will be participating in a football tournament. We wish them the best of luck and know they will represent our school with pride and sportsmanship.

Finally, our Geography students will be involved in **geography fieldwork** as part of their GCSE assessments. This hands-on experience will enhance their understanding of the subject and prepare them for success in their examinations.

We are also eagerly anticipating **World Book Day**, which takes place on Thursday, 7th March. Many of our staff will dress up in character, and I encourage you to check out our promotional video on Twitter. Additionally, students will see our promotional video regarding our recommended read, "Fight Back" by AM Dassu.

Together, let us continue to celebrate these achievements and strive for excellence in all aspects of school life.

Thank you for your attention in reading this letter and I look forward to more communication over the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Cooke', written in a cursive style.

David Cooke
Head of School