



5<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

This is an important update about school attendance at Rockwood Academy.

Rockwood Academy continues to work in partnership with parents and the Local Authority to improve school attendance.

**Thank you to the majority of parents who make sure their children attend school regularly.**

There are 2 sessions in 1 school day, the morning session and the afternoon session. If your child misses 19 school days, which is 38 sessions within the academic year, they will be classed as **persistently absent (PA)** and a more formalised approach to improve attendance will be adopted by the school. This can lead to legal proceedings in the form of government fines and prosecution.

**How will your child’s academic progress be impacted by poor attendance?**

| Attendance during one school year | Equals this number of days absent | Weeks absent | number of lessons missed at school |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| 18 sessions                       | 9 days                            | 2 weeks      | 50 lessons                         |
| 38 sessions                       | 19 days                           | 4 weeks      | 100 lessons                        |
| 58 sessions                       | 29 days                           | 6 weeks      | 150 lessons                        |

**Inclusive Attendance: Rockwood’s attendance partnership**

Rockwood have partnered with Wayne Harris and Inclusive Attendance to ensure all key stakeholders are aware of the role they play which will support our students ensuring their attendance is 100%. Wayne Harris is a nationally recognised figure in education who specialises in improving school attendance. Rockwood will now be adopting a multi-tiered approach to attendance. For this approach to work, it is imperative parents/carers and students engage with the school when removing barriers to poor attendance. We are a community school and take pride in serving our students. However, your input is key to your child’s strong attendance to school and consequently their academic success.

**Rockwood’s multi-tiered attendance model**

Rockwood Academy have now launched a multi-tiered approach to improving student attendance, where all key stakeholders play a vital role in ensuring their child’s attendance is 100% for the academic year.



There are 3 tiers to Rockwood's multi-tiered attendance model when supporting students improving and maintaining excellent attendance to Rockwood:

1. **Tier 1- universal strategies-** these are actions that ALL students at Rockwood should do to improve/maintain their attendance.
2. **Tier 2- individualised strategies-** this is targeted support for students who at risk of becoming persistently absent (PA) (19 school days missed and legal proceedings begin).
3. **Tier 3- higher needs strategies-** this is the support we provide to severely absent (SA) students. These are students who have been away for 50% of the academic year.

#### **Role of children at each tier**

- Attend school regularly and be punctual.
- Engage actively in classroom activities.
- Support other children.
- Share when you have a concern.
- Recognise personal achievements.
- Actively participate in any targeted interventions provided to improve your attendance.
- Continue to engage in school life.

#### **Role of parent at each tier**

- Ensure children attend school regularly and on time.
- Understand and support any concerns your child may have.
- Recognise personal achievements.
- Work with the school to help understand their child's barriers to attendance.
- Proactively engage with the support offered to prevent the need for more formal support.
- Take an active role in the multi-agency support offered.
- Collaborate closely with the school on creating and implementing highly specialised interventions. **This will prevent legal proceedings.**

Parents/carers of students who are close to reaching the 19-day Persistent Absent threshold will be contacted and Rockwood's multi-tiered approach to attendance will be activated. Please work with us as we continue to ensure your child's attendance and academic achievement is the best it possibly can be at Rockwood. We are thriving for excellence, and know you also want the best for your child.

Kindest regards.

**Mr R Reeve**  
Headteacher