

26 September 2025

Dear Parent(s) / Carer(s)

We are already four weeks into the brand-new school year, and we have seen so many positives from our students. A new year means new opportunities to thrive, and we are so excited to be a part of your child's journey through school.

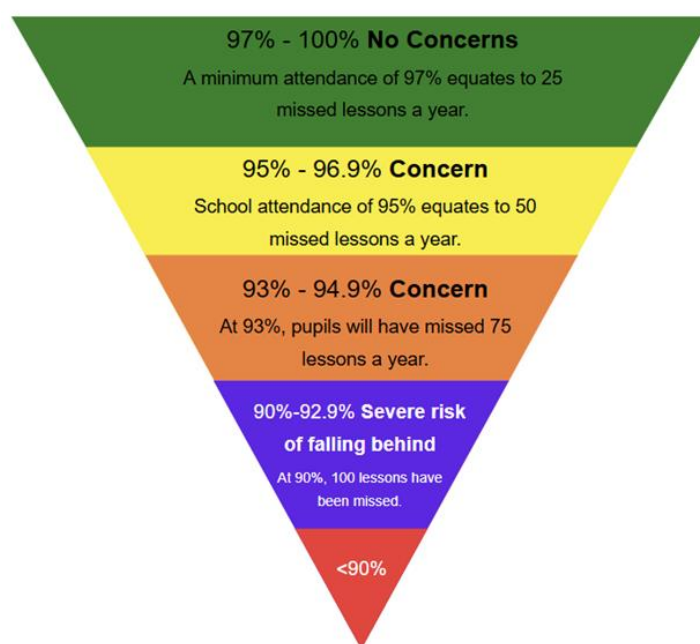
Since returning (or starting for our new Year 7 cohort) we have been celebrating students for their behaviour, punctuality and attendance. Some year groups have adopted a year group mascot and are proudly competing for who is the winner of the mascot each week, alongside a renewed focus on praise being awarded in lessons, on the corridors, and at social times. Keep an eye on our social media for the latest winners.

At Nunthorpe, we believe that consistent attendance is a vital part of helping every child thrive - both academically and personally. When students attend regularly, they are more likely to stay on track with their learning, perform better in assessments, and build the habits that lead to long-term success. Regular attendance can also help to support well-being and supports students in building positive relationships with their peers.

With that in mind, we have reviewed our approach to attendance. Research from the Department for Education (DfE) suggests that the most effective schools consistently promote the benefits of good attendance, set high expectations for every student, communicate those expectations clearly and consistently to students and parents, systematically analyse their data to identify patterns to target their improvement efforts, and work effectively with the local authority and other local partners to overcome barriers to attendance.

At Nunthorpe we have introduced a multi-faceted approach to attendance. This includes an improved attendance strategy that aims to promote the benefits of attendance, thus providing our students with the opportunities they need to effectively access learning. Regular school attendance plays a pivotal part in supporting pupils to have the best possible start in life. Ideally, all pupils would aim for 100% attendance but as a school we have a target of **at least 96%**.

Below, the Attendance triangle demonstrates how importance attendance is:



We are here to support every student and family to get the best out of every day in school, but we recognise that sometimes life happens – illness, family needs, and other challenges may sometimes be a barrier to attending school. When situations like this occur, we ask that you work with us to remove barriers and allow us to support your child in school. You may receive letters or invitations to attend meetings to discuss your child's attendance. This is not a criticism and is there to keep you informed of the importance of attendance and offer early support. The more we communicate, the more effectively we can work together.

Part of having good attendance is being punctual. All students need to be in school by 8:25am so they do not miss out on important learning and messages for the day. Arriving just 5 minutes late every day equates to 3 days of lost learning per year.

As a parent you have a legal responsibility to ensure your child is in full time education. If you are having problems with this then please let us know as soon as possible so that we can support.

Thank you for supporting us in ensuring your child attends school on time every day. Together, we can make sure all our students are thriving.

Yours sincerely

Alexandra Arnold  
**Assistant Headteacher – Behaviour & Attitudes**

**AEA/JSO**