

Our Aims, Goals and Commitment

Our Aims

At Lesmahagow High School we aim to support all young people to attend on a regular basis. Regular attendance is the key to raising attainment, improving skills for learning, life and work and improving learner outcomes.

We aim to work with all stakeholders to support families to ensure their young person receives the best education possible.

Goals

Lesmahagow High School's attendance goal is to have all young people attending at least 95% of the time. We appreciate young people will be absent from time to time, but the more time they are in school, the more they are likely to attain, thus improving learner outcomes and progression to a positive destination.

Commitment

At Lesmahagow High School we are committed to supporting young people to achieve their full potential. As such, we will utilise a variety of supports in order to encourage and help young people to attend on a regular basis.

Contact us

If you need to speak to a member of staff regarding your young person's attendance, please contact their Principal Teacher of Pupil Support in the first instance.

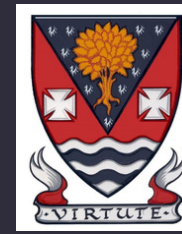
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Lesmahagow
High School

Promoting Excellent Attendance Parent/Carer Leaflet



To access our full Attendance Policy, please scan the QR code.

What we need from parents/carers

Process for reporting absences

- Contact the school at your earliest convenience to inform of your child's absence, potential duration of absence and estimated return date.
- Inform the school of permitted absences such as medical appointments prior to the date and time. This should be done in writing or phone call for emergency appointments.
- Contact the school regarding concerns or issues that may have the potential to lead to school absences.
- Liaise with Pupil Support and SMT, where applicable, to help support your child to attend on a regular basis, especially if attendance has become an issue.
- All phone calls should be followed up with a letter addressed to the young person's Tutor Teacher or PT Pupil Support.

Responsibilities of Parents/Carers

- Support young people to attend school on a regular basis.
- Reinforce the importance of excellent attendance.
- Work with the school to maximise the attendance of young people.
- Ensure the school are aware of school absences and the reason for these.
- Work with all stakeholders to help maximise a young person's attendance.

During the School Day

- No pupil should leave the school grounds without permission. If your child is unwell, they should speak with the office who will contact home and arrange next steps.
- If a child, does leave the school grounds, please inform the school immediately.

Importance of Excellent School Attendance

Percentage Attendance	Days Missed	Impact
100 %	0 Days Absence	Gives a child and young person the best chance of success and ensures that their full potential is achieved
90%	18 Days Absence	Is likely to make it harder to achieve full potential and secure the best possible outcomes
80%	36 Days Absence	Is likely to impact significantly on learning and progress which can lead to poorer outcomes in achievement, wellbeing and social and emotional development

If a pupil by the end of S5 has 90% attendance, in aggregate over their school career, they will have the equivalent of:

- ½ a day off per week
- 18 days off per year
- 247 days off over their school career of 12 academic years, equivalent to over 1 year of lost education.

Late Coming

Late by...	That equals...	Which is...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1 and a half weeks per year
30 minutes per day	half a day per week	4 weeks per year
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year

What is our target attendance rate?



Supports for Attendance

What supports are available?

- We have access to a variety on internal and external supports to help young people attend.
- These include:
 - Soft Starts.
 - Learning Support.
 - Part Time Timetables.
 - Quiet / Safe Spaces.
 - Breakfast, Interval and Lunch Clubs.
 - Alternative and Wider Achievement Opportunities.
- A more detailed description of supports can be found within our Lesmahagow High School Promoting Excellent Attendance Policy. Use the QR code at the front to access this.