



6th November 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Punctuality and Impact on Achievement

At The Holmesdale School, we pride ourselves on ensuring that students are exposed to the maximum amount of high quality learning time possible. We would like to emphasise the importance of punctuality for your child's success.

Why is Punctuality Important?

- **Academic Performance and Progress:** Arriving on time ensures that your child doesn't miss crucial parts of lessons, which can significantly impact their understanding of the subject content. All lessons are designed with a retrieval based 'Do Now' activity in the first 10 minutes. These specifically support your child in remembering more over longer periods of time, leading to high rates of success in lessons and examination.
- **Positive Learning Environment:** Punctuality contributes to a focused and productive learning atmosphere for all students. Students who arrive late to school and lessons, disrupt the learning of others.
- **Responsibility and Time Management Skills:** Being punctual helps develop essential life skills that will benefit your child both in and out of school.
- **School Rules and Expectations:** Consistent lateness disrupts the school routine and can lead to the need to monitor individual lateness through reports, leading to sanctions for persistent lateness.

How Can We Work Together?

- **Morning Routine:** Please help your child establish a consistent morning routine to ensure they are ready on time.
- **Communication:** If there are any unforeseen circumstances that may cause your child to be late, please inform the school in advance.
- **Encourage Punctuality:** Reinforce the importance of punctuality at home and celebrate your child's achievements in this area. We will continue to reward and celebrate those who have strong levels of attendance and punctuality.

A member of Swale Academies Trust

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Registered in England No. 07344732



Headteacher: Mr G Prebble BEd (Hons) NPQH



- **Support School Sanctions:** For the reasons explained above, it is important that sanctions are put in place for students who are continuously late. It is essential for you to support us in the completion of these sanctions to ensure more positive decisions around expectations and routines are made by the students.
 - Weekly late detentions are scheduled for each year group for the total amount of late minutes up to one hour. These are communicated to parents the day before.
 - Punctuality reports will be used for monitoring and tracking. Findings will be communicated to you.

If further support for a student is needed to ensure good punctuality, the pastoral team will be in contact to discuss strategies between the school, parents and child.

By working together, we can ensure that your child arrives at school and lessons on time, ready to learn and succeed.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Ms S Dawkins

Assistant Headteacher

