

26th June 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

As we approach the end of this academic year we are reflecting on our successes and challenges since last September. As you will know, attendance remains a high priority for The Suthers School and our attendance motto embraces this – Everyone in, Every Day. We have organised a number of incentives to encourage 100% attendance including Make It Count March, Eggcellent Attendance in April and Feed the Family Fridays. Rewards have included Easter Eggs, a games afternoon for the lucky winner & a group of friends, Pizza for two and Just Eat vouchers.

Our students report that they enjoy coming to The Suthers School and regularly comment positively on their experiences. Mr Griffiths has spoken recently that we are a school of choice, with a waiting list for all year groups, and yet our overall attendance percentage is below the national average. Recent research by the Department for Education shows just how closely attendance and attainment are linked. Year 11 pupils with attendance in excess of 96% are almost twice as likely to achieve Grade 5 in English and Maths GCSE, compared to similar pupils attending 90-95% of the time. In other words, missing just 10 extra days a year reduces the likelihood of achieving these grades by around 50%. Similarly, we understand that illness occurs and sometimes, unavoidable events too, but please give careful consideration as to whether your child is really not well enough for school or if they could power through and come in. We know that consistent attendance is directly linked to pupil success, both academically and socially. We want to ensure all our pupils have the best possible chance to thrive.

To drive up standards of attendance we are pleased to announce further incentives. These will work as follows:

1. Every student with 100% attendance for the final 20 days of this school year will be entered into a prize draw to win Just Eat vouchers. 5 names will be picked at random with each lucky winner receiving a £30 Just Eat voucher.
2. Every student with 100% attendance in the final week of this school year and the first week of 2025/2026 school year will be entered into a prize draw and the lucky winner will win a £50 Just Eat voucher for the family

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support in relation to attendance and we look forward to celebrating high levels of attendance in the final few weeks before the summer break.

Yours sincerely

Phil Hunt
Assistant Head Teacher