



Friday, 11th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

SUBJECT: Essential Information on Attendance and Punctuality

We are delighted to welcome all of our pupils back to school this week. It is our absolute pleasure to teach and support them, and we work hard every day to ensure every pupil feels a true sense of belonging and receives every opportunity to achieve their best. A crucial foundation for this success is excellent attendance (including punctuality).

At Risedale School, we expect pupils to aim for a minimum of 95% attendance, with an aspirational target of 97%. Research consistently shows that pupils reaching or exceeding these levels have the best chance of academic success and personal growth. Furthermore, pupils with lower attendance miss out on vital learning as well as the rich extracurricular opportunities we pride ourselves on offering.

The image below highlights the impact of attendance on achievement.





RISEDALE
A family of learners

RISEDALE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs L Greenwood - BA (Dunelm), NPQH
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We love celebrating our pupils' commitment. We acknowledge good attendance through rewards trips, regular incentives, and weekly tutor group attendance prizes - all of which we will continue to expand throughout the coming academic year.

Punctuality Expectations

We expect all pupils at Risedale School to arrive on time every day to maximise their learning potential. Pupils must **arrive onsite by 8:20 AM** and be in their tutor rooms by **8:30 AM**.

Pupils arriving after **9:00 AM** must report to reception to be signed in. In accordance with Department for Education (DfE) guidance, arrivals after this time are marked as an unauthorised absence (Code U), which directly impacts their overall attendance record.

Time out of lesson per day in 1 year equates to...

5 minutes	3 days of learning	16 lessons lost
10 minutes	5 days of learning	32 lessons lost
15 minutes	8 days of learning	48 lessons lost
20 minutes	11 days of learning	63 lessons lost
30 minutes	16 days of learning	95 lessons lost

Working Together

Strong attendance and punctuality rely on a close partnership between school, parents, and pupils. Please help us support your child by encouraging regular attendance, including sending them to school with minor, manageable illnesses whenever appropriate so they do not fall behind.

For full details on our policies, medical appointments during school hours, and support resources, please visit our dedicated website page: [Attendance](#)

If your child is facing any challenges that affect their attendance, or if you have any questions, please contact our dedicated Attendance Team at attendance@risedale.org.uk so we can work together to support them.

We look forward to a successful and enjoyable year ahead.

Warm regards,

Mrs L Lumsdon
Assistant Headteacher

