RISEDALE SCHOOL
Headteacher: Mrs L Greenwood - BA (Dunelm), NPQH
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Monday, 23rd November 2026

Dear parent/carer,

SUBJECT: Pupil Attendance Update

As we enter the final four weeks of term, thank you for your continued commitment to getting your child into school on time every day. Whilst pupils naturally start to feel tired at this stage of the year, these final weeks remain vital; lessons are carefully planned, assessments are underway, and there are plenty of opportunities to celebrate achievements before the Christmas break.

In short, **Every Day In School Matters**. Recent Department for Education data shows that even a single day of absence can disrupt a child's progress, confidence, and sense of belonging. Consistent attendance helps pupils keep up with their learning, maintain positive routines, and build strong relationships with staff and peers.

What will the school do?

We have introduced several positive, reward-led initiatives across the school to celebrate great attendance:

- **Monday tutor-time check-ins:** Pupils review their personal weekly and year-to-date attendance figures and colour banding in their planners, earning rewards for taking ownership of their progress.
- **The Weekly Attendance League:** Tutor groups compete each week to become the termly year-group winners, with the first reward experience taking place at Christmas; pupils truly have to be ***In It To Win It***.
- **Year-group and whole-school drives:** Following our GTA Attendance Drive (£30 voucher spot prize), Year 9 streak rewards, and Year 11's *No Nonsense November* (with a free Prom ticket or voucher up for grabs), look out on our social media channels for **Attendance Advent** starting on **Tuesday 1st December**.
- **'Thank Yale it's Friday':** Every Friday ends with a live broadcast across all classes to celebrate positive attendance and award weekly spot prizes.

What can you do?

Strong attendance is a shared effort between school and home. We ask that you:

- **Prioritise school attendance:** Ensure that your child attends school every day unless they are genuinely too unwell to do so.
- **Avoid unnecessary absences:** Please do not arrange holidays, trips or other appointments during school time wherever possible.
- **Maintain positive routines:** Encourage regular bedtimes, morning routines and preparation for the school day.
- **Talk positively about school:** Reinforce the importance of attending every day and encourage your child to make the most of their learning opportunities.

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- **Communicate with us:** If your child is experiencing difficulties that are affecting their attendance, please contact the school so that we can work together to identify appropriate support.
- **Celebrate good attendance:** Recognise your child's efforts and achievements in maintaining positive attendance.

Please remember: every day counts, every lesson matters, and every pupil deserves the opportunity to succeed.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to your child's education. We look forward to working together to finish the term positively and ensure that all pupils make the very most of these final four weeks.

Mr L Yale
Assistant Headteacher for Attendance & Personal Development

For more information regarding Attendance, Absence and Punctuality at Risedale School, please visit our dedicated webpage: Attendance

⭐ Be Here, Be Ready, Be Your BEST! ⭐

