



# Biddenham

International School & Sports College

Principal: Mr David Bailey

Head of School: Ms Eleanor Grylls

February 2024

## Are we there yet?

Dear Parent/Carer

As students are enjoying their well-deserved half term break from school, it is important that they come back rested and refreshed and ready to go again. We are not quite there yet for the end of the school year, so it is important that students attend all the school days as we are entering a very important part of the year for assessments.

Every moment in school counts, and days missed add up quickly. For example, a child in Year 10 who is absent for three days over a half term could miss 15 lessons in total. The higher a pupil's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform in exams and formal assessments.

However we need to work together so we can achieve the best outcomes for your child both now and in the future. So what can you do to help? A lot actually...

- Ensure your child leaves home in plenty of time to arrive on time for the start of the school day. Late students miss out, and face playing catch-up...
- It is important not to take your child out of school for doctors or dental appointments, these can usually be made after school. One of the benefits of Biddenham School is that the day ends early at 2.35pm...
- Avoid holidays or breaks in term time, this will help to keep your child's attendance high and give them a much better opportunity to succeed in their studies...
- If your child is too unwell to attend school, it is important that you inform the school's attendance office on **01234 334528** or **attendance@mybiddenham.com** every day that your child is away from school...

Your child's education matters to us and being here is the key to their success. Should you feel that there may be an issue as to why your child is not attending, please contact the school to see if we can help to resolve the issue. A child who attends school **96% of the time is highly likely to gain 5+ GCSEs including English and Maths at Biddenham.**

We look forward to your support and your child's success as we work together.

Mr P Alexis  
Whole School Attendance Lead

Mr D Bailey  
Principal

Ms E Grylls  
Head of School

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