

1 St. John's Road Yeovil, Somerset BA21 4NH Tel: 01935 424454 office@bucklersmeadacademy.com www.bucklersmead.com

ML/DJS

3 November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware (as I keep mentioning it!), Buckler's Mead Academy has just achieved the best results in the school's history. On Friday last week, the Department for Education published its Performance Tables and it was wonderful to see how well our school had done in comparison with other schools nationally, significantly beating the national average for both student progress and attainment.

It is no coincidence that the Year 11 students (the Class of 2023) who achieved these great results also beat the national average for attendance. High attendance in schools goes hand in hand with achievement and our target for all students is to be above 96%.

Our pastoral team works with families to promote good attendance and will support when attendance falls below 96%. The team will be sending out letters over the next few weeks, which are aimed at ensuring that when a student is falling below the target level, families are aware of this and if support from the school is required we will look to act as soon as we can. Obviously we are aware that some absence is unavoidable, but we really do encourage our families to ensure students are in the academy as much as possible.

The Government is also attempting to put in measures to support good school attendance. The attached letter (see link below) is published by Government Advisors and offers advice on 'mild illness and school attendance'.

 $\underline{https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/letter-to-school-leaders-on-mild-illness-and-school-attendance/letter-to-school-leaders-on-mild-illness-and-school-attendance}$

Many thanks for all your ongoing support. It is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

MR M LAWRENCE Headteacher

