

13th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Attendance Letter Summer Term 2026

Welcome back to Summer Half Term. We hope you enjoyed a restful break and that students are ready for a positive and productive summer term.

Regular attendance from the very first week is essential. High attendance enables students across all year groups to achieve stronger academic outcomes, deepen their subject knowledge, and develop habits in preparation for the next stages in their academic or future career opportunities and pathways; even a single missed day can disrupt routines and make it harder for students to remain confident and connected. Your support in ensuring full attendance is greatly appreciated.

This half term is an important period for all students in Years 7-11, as they build on effective study routines, continue to lay the ground base in preparation for options choices next academic year, and prepare for key transitions.

Summer term marks the beginning of the **formal GCSE examination period** for Year 11. Every lesson and every revision opportunity now play a crucial role. Strong attendance ensures students receive the full curriculum, targeted support, and the consistent practice needed for exam success. Missing even short periods of learning at this stage can significantly affect outcomes. Your continued support in ensuring daily attendance and punctuality is vital.

The Department for Education expects all students to attend regularly, with an aspirational target of 97%. Aquinas continues to work with the school, Essex Police, and the Local Authority to support families and address persistent absence. Their focus is on removing barriers to attendance through positive, supportive intervention.

We understand that illness or exceptional circumstances may occasionally prevent attendance. Parents are encouraged to contact the school early so we can work together to resolve any issues. NHS guidance confirms that most minor illnesses, such as colds, mild coughs, sore throats, or headaches, do not require time off school.

School doors open each day at 7:30am, and registration begins at 8:30am. Students should arrive by the 8:25am bell. Late arrivals must sign in via Student Services. While sanctions for lateness are outlined in our policy, we are committed to recognising students who arrive prepared and on time. Regular attendance and punctuality are life skills that builds organisation, reliability, and long-term success and we always aim to reward students for their continued efforts.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a positive, ambitious, and successful school community.

Kind regards,



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