Attendance

Alex Gorno - Assistant Head Teacher

CHESSINGTON SCHOOL



Everyone valued • Every day an opportunity • Every moment focused on success

WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS

CHESSINGTON SCHOOL

One of the biggest factors in a successful start to secondary school is simple:

Being in school, every day, on time and ready to learn.

Good attendance gives students:

- More learning and fewer gaps
- Stronger friendships and a greater sense of belonging
- Better routines and habits
- More confidence and resilience
- More opportunities and choices in the future

MAKING A STRONG START

Secondary school brings greater independence.
The habits students develop now can shape the rest of their school career.
We want our Year 7 students to:

- Aim for **95%+ attendance**
- Arrive on site by **8:25am**
- Be in tutor time and ready to learn by **8:30am**
- Attend every lesson
- Ask for help when something is making attendance difficult

We know that genuine barriers sometimes arise.
Please talk to us early so that we can work together to support your child.

PUNCTUALITY

Being on time matters too.

School registers are **legal records** and schools must use the national attendance codes required by government regulations.

If a student arrives **after the register has closed**, they receive a **U code**.

This is not simply a Chessington School rule — **it is a national legal attendance requirement.**



Our expectation is therefore simple:
Arrive by 8:25am. Be ready to start at 8:30am.

Where students are late, there is a **same-day late detention**, with a longer lunchtime detention for students arriving significantly later. The purpose is not to catch students out — it is to establish strong habits from the beginning.

WE NOTICE WHEN STUDENTS GET IT RIGHT

We want attendance to be something we **celebrate**, not simply monitor.

Throughout the year students can receive:

- Certificates and postcards home
- Tutor group rewards
- Queue Jump Passes
- Attendance competitions and challenges
- Individual prize draws
- Rewards and prizes for strong attendance, punctuality and improvement



We recognise **consistency and improvement**, not just perfection.

Studybugs



Download the Studybugs app for reporting your child's absence

A quick and secure way to report absence due to illness and send messages to school.

GET IT ON Google Play

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