



**ST STEPHENS COMMUNITY ACADEMY**  
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Head Teacher: Maura Furber

**'Embracing Learning.  
Inspiring Ambition.  
Celebrating Individuality'**

20.02.2024

RE: absences from school

Dear Parents/Carers

Each year, we set high standards and expectations for the attendance and punctuality of all our pupils in order to ensure all pupils have the best chance to develop, build friendships and progress academically.

**The link between attendance and attainment is clear.**

In 2018/19, **just 40% of persistently absent (PA) children in KS2 achieved expected KS2 standards**, compared with 84% of pupils who were regular attenders.

The wellbeing and educational progress of our pupils is our priority, and we believe that your child's full attendance is hugely important in enabling them to succeed at school. But attendance is important for more than just attainment. **Regular school attendance can facilitate positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing.**

We are, therefore, writing to express our concern regarding your child's recent high levels of absence from school. Your child has so far been present for only -% of school days this academic year.

Please can you contact the school office on 01566772170 or email [ststephens@andaras.org](mailto:ststephens@andaras.org) in order to arrange a meeting for us to discuss how best we can support your child's lost learning time and anything else which you would like to raise.

Yours sincerely,  
*Maura Furber.*

Head teacher

