

## Personal Development at William Booth

### What do we do for attendance at William Booth?

Attendance is one of the real success stories at William Booth school. For many years now the school has been achieving attendance figures above national average and this has been achieved through a relentless and unapologetic focus on the importance of school attendance for all of our pupils.

Our **Attendance Officer Tom Buckmaster** - supported by his two pupil **Attendance Leads** - works closely with school staff. The central belief is that **every day matters**. When children are off they can expect a home visit, where school will work with families to address any issues and get children back into school as soon as possible. There's a focus on support and working together, and where this doesn't work a robust plan is then put in place.

A combination of consistent and changing **rewards ensure that good attendance is celebrated**, from the half-termly class breakfasts to trips to Wagamama's and the Funstation for pupils that achieve 100% attendance over an academic year.

**Teachers are quick to draw the links between attendance and learning**: we want parents and carers to understand why attendance matters so much.

And perhaps most importantly, **William Booth is a place that children want to be**. We believe that this is the foundation of our success in having outstanding school attendance.



### What is the impact?

School attendance for 2023-24 was 95% (0.5% higher than the previous academic year and over 2% up on the national average). Each academic year more than a tenth of pupils achieve 100% attendance for the year. PA figures are low (well below national average) and the school has not had any SPA's at the end of an academic year. The school monitors attendance for vulnerable groups and ensures that they outperform comparative groups on a national level, and occasionally reverse typical trends (such as in the case of boys' attendance). Last year all but one cohort improved on their attendance for the previous year. Over 80% of cases put on the school's Attendance Concerns pathway showed significant improvements within six months.