Rivers Academy Parent Forum

Date 15/10/25
Focus Group: All parents
Topic: Attendance

Suggested areas of discussion:

- What makes a student attend regularly?
- What are the barriers to attendance?
- What could the academy do to improve attendance and support families more?

Area of discussion	Notes	Actions
How does the academy support your child	• Free breakfast club • Safe space • Learning development team / Mental wellbeing lead • 1:1 sessions • IAAP – individual attendance action plans • SEN support • Counselling • CAMHS referral • Canteen queue jumps • Medical pass / toilet pass • Incentives / Rewards trips/ Attendance Reward plan cards • Academic Mentoring Conversations • Sponsors	• Parents can contact their child's academic mentor as the first point of contact. Following this the Faculty Coordinator followed by the Faculty AP will be able to support. • Academic Mentors to ensure fortnightly IAAPs in Academic mentoring conversations during AM time. • Parents provide the Academy with medical notes if toilet passes are required.

Support for pupils with mental health	Pupils with ASD: relationship with parents, maintained EHC plans, monitoring, LA contact. • Pupils with anxiety: safe space, referrals, trusted adults, 1:1 support, scaffolding, TA support. • Anxiety-based school avoidance: wellbeing sessions, action plans.	Parents contact the Faculty Pastoral team if there are any concerns . IAAP will inform interventions
Building confidence	• SLT / academy staff Meet and greet at gate • Trusted staff / sponsors • • After-school clubs • 1-1 academic mentoring	Attendance reward cards signed at the gate Parents encourage child to attend Free breakfast club to socialise and get ready for the day .
How can you support your child	-Homework completed early • Early bedtime • Morning routine support • Breakfast • Limit screen time • No devices in bedrooms • Praise and reward • Communicate with school • Talk to someone • Every lesson, every day	Parents to build routines at home to ensure routine bed time and communicate with academy staff of any issues
Barriers to attendance	Detentions for homework not completed	• Parents to ensure students attend homework club • • Breakfast club helps with

	Late to school Friendship issues Medical /illness Difficulty waking up	homework ● ● Check website for extra curricular activities Send students late if ill rather than missing the whole day