



June 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

We are so excited to welcome your child to Guiseley School this September! Starting secondary school is a wonderful milestone, and we are committed to supporting them every single step of the way.

My name is Catherine McGirr, Assistant Headteacher with whole school responsibility for attendance and my focus is ensuring our students get the absolute best start to their new journey, which begins with excellent attendance from day one.

Starting strong in Year 7 helps your child build lifelong friendships, settle into routines and boost their confidence.

The statistics show just how much of an impact regular attendance has on their future:

- National data shows that students with over 95% attendance are statistically **twice** as likely to achieve good GCSE grades.
- An attendance rate of 90% might sound good, but it actually means missing 19 school days a year - that is nearly a full month of vital learning lost.

To give your child the best foundation for success, we kindly ask that you support them by:

- Aiming for 100% attendance wherever possible.
- Not taking term-time holidays or unnecessary days off.
- Letting us know promptly if illness means your child truly cannot attend.

We are here to help! We know that life happens and challenges arise. Whether it is a medical need, anxiety about settling in, or trouble making friends, our Pastoral and Attendance teams are here to support your family. Please never hesitate to reach out to us via email [info@guiseley.org.uk](mailto:info@guiseley.org.uk) or telephone 01943 872315 if you anticipate any difficulties with attendance.

Before your child starts in September can I ask that you ensure you are familiar with our attendance policy [Guisoley School Attendance Policy.pdf](#).

Finally, please click the following link which is a shortcut to the transition page on our website if you need a reminder of any of the information that we sent out earlier in the transition process - [Transition Page](#)

We look forward to supporting your family in achieving outstanding attendance and a successful start to Year 7.

Regards

Catherine McGirr  
Assistant Headteacher



Artsmark  
Platinum Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England