

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Attendance**

At The Sir Donald Bailey Academy we pride ourselves on the academic and sporting achievements of our pupils. These achievements, which include national recognition for pupil progress, have been possible due to the hard work and ambition of staff and pupils supported by parents/ carers. One key way in which parents support their child to achieve and get the most from school is by ensuring an exemplary attendance record is maintained. As an academy we understand that this has been challenging in recent times due to the national situation. However, leaders agree it is now time to return our focus to this vital area and ensure all parents are fulfilling their responsibilities.

As we move into the summer term we ask that parents/ carers support their children's education by ensuring that their child attends school every day. On behalf of all pupils at our academy we understand that, as leaders, we have a duty to relentlessly challenge parents and carers who do not send their children to school often enough. Any child below 97% attendance will trigger our staff and leaders to take action. In the past I have played a full role in this area meeting and speaking with parents and am happy to do so again. The government fully back schools to do this, and it is clearly a priority for them to get all pupils to attend school every day.

As a school, we recognise that the vast majority of parents support their children in many ways and work well with school. I look forward to your ongoing support with ensuring our academy meets its ambitious attendance targets.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Hessey (CEO/FCCT)