** Why Attendance Matters in the Senior Phase**

Attending and taking part in learning – wherever learning takes place – is fundamental to making sure that our young people at Hyndland Secondary can achieve their full potential. Parents and carers are by far the most important influence on children’s lives and learning and it is parents and carers who are responsible for making sure their child is educated.

As a school we do understand that there will be times when a student is unable to attend school due to poor health or other extenuating factors. However, we also expect our students, particularly those in the Senior Phase, to avoid missing days when they are well enough to be here where at all possible.

We very much appreciate the support of parents with regards to attendance. Recently we have been sharing some very valuable information with our senior students about the link between attendance and attainment. From our data analysis we can prove that there is a clear link between attendance and how pupils perform in their SQA examinations. We believe it would be helpful for parents to see some of these headline figures:

**The top performing 20% of S4 students had an average attendance of 97.49% whilst the bottom 20% had an average attendance of 73.98%.**

**Those in S4 who are currently on course to pass 8 National 5 awards in May had an average attendance of 96.87%.**

**The top performing 50% of S4 had an average attendance of 96.21% whilst the bottom 50% had an average attendance of 86.74%.**



**A student with an average attendance of 90% will have missed 4 weeks of school in a year – which accounts for approximately 124 lessons.**

**80% of students who have 100% attendance are in the top performing 50% of the year group.**

If you have any concerns about your child’s attendance please make contact with his/her Pastoral Care Teacher. Many thanks in advance for your support in encouraging excellent attendance at school.