

11 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Attendance

I want to begin by saying a huge well done to all of our students for such a strong, positive start to the new academic year. Seeing their energy, enthusiasm, and focus over these past couple of weeks makes me extraordinarily proud to be their Principal.

As someone who has worked at Grace for 23 years and grew up right here in our local community, my connection to this area runs deep. I am incredibly passionate about our neighborhood, immensely proud of where we come from, and fiercely determined for everyone outside our school gates to see what a wonderful, tight-knit and supportive community we truly have.

That pride extends directly into our classrooms every single day. Academically, our students achieve in line with, and frequently above, students nationally. On top of that, the standard of behaviour across our school is consistently high; our young people represent us with maturity, kindness, and respect.

However, looking back at last year, there was one area where we did not beat other schools, both locally and nationally: our attendance.

I have a relentless drive for our students to be recognised as the absolute best in everything we do, and that has to include attendance. I want the rest of the country to see what I see every morning, that our children are every bit as capable, talented, and deserving of success as anyone, anywhere. But to make everyone else realise that, our presence in school needs to reflect it.

That is why I am asking you to join me. We have had an amazing start to our attendance over the last two weeks, and I want us to build on this momentum together, so we can become the best-attending school around. I completely understand how hard it can be sometimes to get children through the doors in the morning, but I know that when we work together and support each other, we can help our children accomplish anything. On our end, we will be working tirelessly to support your child in attending every day, listening to any concerns you might have, and supporting you through them in any way we can.

I am so proud of our community, and I know you are too. I ask you to stand with us under our shared banner: **"Proud of who we are, present every day."** Please support your child, your school, and our entire community by ensuring your child is here every single day. Let's show the rest of the country who we really are!

Thank you for listening, for believing in our children, and for working alongside me to make our academy the best around in everything we do.

Warm regards,



Matthew Godwin
Principal - For and on behalf of Tove Learning Trust