

Our ref: CS/ERE/ADO/Attendance Peer Mentoring

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: Attendance Peer Mentoring**

We are writing to inform you that your child has been selected to take part in our new Peer Mentoring Initiative. This programme has been designed to support pupils in Year 7 whose attendance is currently below 92%, with the aim of helping them improve their attendance and feel more confident and connected in school.

Your child will be paired with trained Year 9 peer mentors who have strong attendance and positive attitudes towards school. These mentors will work alongside our staff leads to support your child for two morning Form Times per week – Monday and Friday.

The mentoring sessions will be delivered in pairs and/or small groups and will eventually include a mixture of sports-based and creative activities. These sessions offer a supportive space for pupils to talk, set attendance goals, build confidence, and feel part of a positive peer community.

**How Peer Mentoring Helps Year 7 Pupils**

- **Positive role modelling:** Year 9 mentors show younger pupils the benefits of good attendance and engagement.
- **A stronger sense of belonging:** Regular check-ins help pupils feel valued and connected to the school community.
- **Encouragement and accountability:** Having a mentor provides gentle motivation to attend school more regularly.
- **Emotional support:** Pupils often feel more comfortable speaking to peers, helping us identify worries such as anxiety or low confidence earlier.

**Expectations and Rewards**

Improving attendance is essential for your child's academic progress, wellbeing and future opportunities. We will be monitoring attendance weekly, and your child will receive support, encouragement and recognition as they make improvements.

We are excited about the positive impact this initiative will have on both our Year 7 pupils and the Year 9 mentors who support them. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [enquiry@decschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@decschool.co.uk) FAO E Raine and A Donovan.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Mr C Seager  
Head of School



**Dame Elizabeth  
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