



Principal's Bulletin

24th January 2025

Are we at our B.E.S.T?

At Gateacre School, we want our pupils to be at their **BEST**—**Back straight, Empty Hands, Silent & Tracking the speaker** when the teacher is speaking or when a fellow pupil is speaking. This is both part of developing polite interactions but importantly, also, to ensure pupils don't miss key information and knowledge due to *lowered attention or being distracted*. This strategy is similar to those schools who use SLANT or SHAPE. The idea is to ensure pupils are paying full attention to what is being taught—fazing in and out of attention leads to missed learning, which over time can lead to a pupil being significantly behind in their learning.



Attendance

We currently have 187 pupils who are between 95% - 100% attendance, 53 of them are on 100% attendance. This is a fantastic effort and I am incredibly proud of all of you. Our 100% Attendance winners this week are: **Ameera Ahmed & Isaac Byrne. Well done! Enjoy your vouchers!** Attendance by year group shows we have significant improvements to make. Patterns are showing Friday to be a day pupils are regularly taking off.

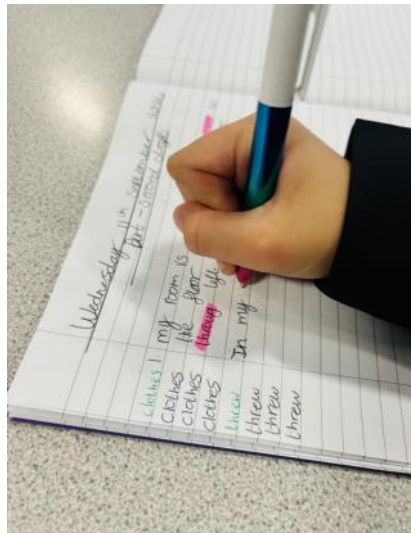
Year	% Attendance	Late before reg	Late after reg
7	91.12%	230	0
8	90.36%	418	3
9	91.23%	524	0
10	83.39%	494	1
11	84.46%	550	14
12	87.11%	54	0
13	86.93%	48	0

Teaching and Learning

The Do Now Activity (DNA) occurs at the start of every lesson and it is short quiz/activity based on recall of previous learning, or to assess for pre-requisite knowledge needed for the lesson that day (review/preview)

It is **5 Minutes maximum** so **punctuality** is key in between lessons otherwise there is a risk that pupils will miss a key opportunity to ensure they have the required skill/knowledge for the lesson they are in that day.

You can see a wonderful example of this where a pupil has also corrected themselves during the quick review of the DNA.



WORD OF THE WEEK

This week's word of the week is:

Analogy

LEADERSHIP THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

“Happiness can be found even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light.”

Dumbledore in *The Prisoner of Azkaban*

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 27th January
Holocaust Memorial Day

Tuesday 28th January
Year 8 Coffee Morning

Thursday 30th January
Parents' Evening for Year 9

★ STAFF G.R.E.A.T ★

Mrs Lisa Biddulph (Reception)

For being that consistent and continuous positive face for all our parents and visitors.