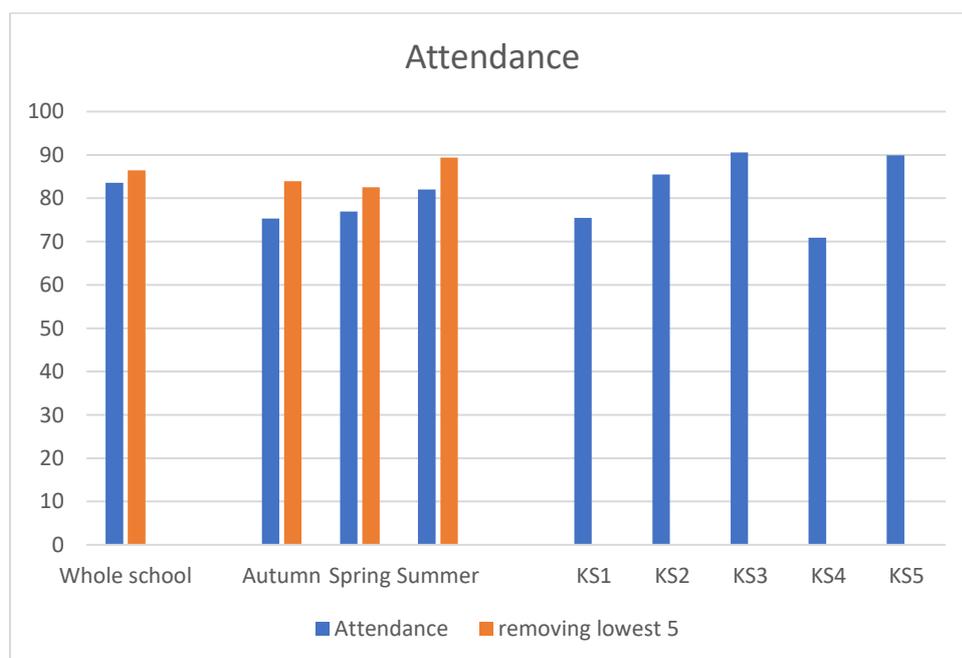


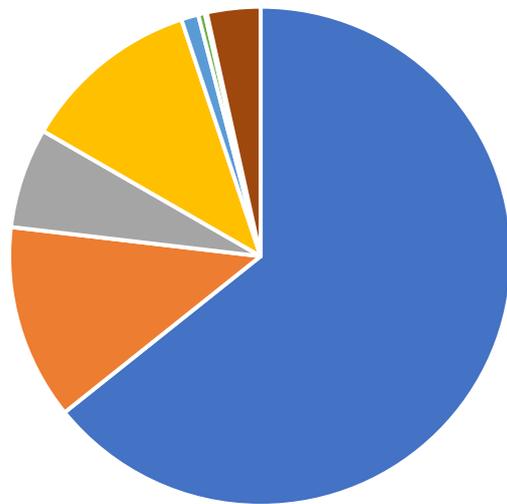
This academic year has afforded more stability in attendance for the majority of the school cohort.

Whole school attendance has gradually improved across the year, with a significant improvement in the summer term. 89.38% is an impressive attendance figure for The Dales School, given the needs and vulnerabilities of our pupil population. I am confident that the summer term is more indicative of the high levels of attendance that we will expect and certainly work towards next academic year. Whilst schools have been fully open this academic year post lockdown, there have been some significant attendance influencers that have been as an ongoing result of lockdown. The most important of these to include in this report is the fact that positive COVID cases have occurred across the school population which has impacted upon staff absence and resulted in some partial closures, and also directly upon pupil attendance as families have followed national and school guidance when their child / young person has tested positive.

	Attendance	Removing lowest 5 (* lowest one)
Whole school	83.56%	86.41%
Autumn term	75.28%	83.95%
Spring term	76.9%	82.51%
Summer term	82.04%	89.38%
Key Stage 1	75.45%	*77.7%
Key Stage 2	85.46%	*87.1%
Key Stage 3	90.6%	
Key Stage 4	70.92%	*88.65%
Sixth form	89.93%	

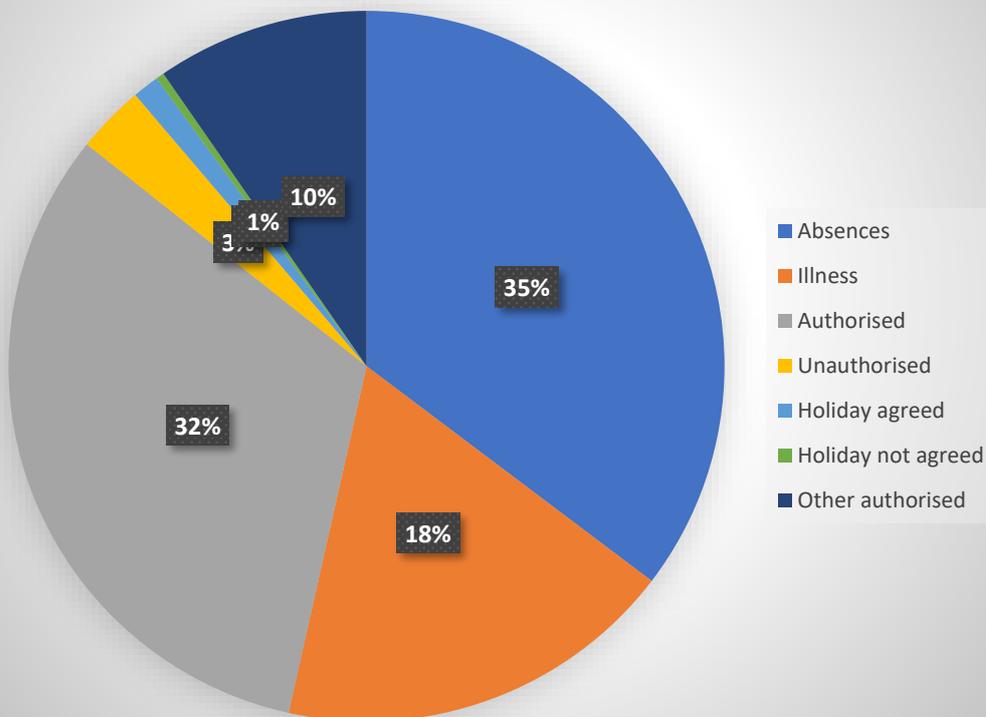


Whole school breakdown of attendance and absence codes



- Attendances ■ Absences ■ Illness ■ Authorised
- Unauthorised ■ Holiday agreed ■ Holiday not agreed ■ Other authorised

Whole school breakdown of absence codes (removing attendance)



- Absences
- Illness
- Authorised
- Unauthorised
- Holiday agreed
- Holiday not agreed
- Other authorised

Key stages

Key stage 1

6 pupils. One pupil had been removed from school on the basis of wider social care issues and their attendance in autumn term was 34.78%. Change in home circumstances led to more positive engagement with school and improved attendance, with a whole year attendance of 63.87% for this pupil.

Another pupil has come own with a lot of infections and bouts of mild illnesses but parent has always followed the school / national guidance and kept her child off school when unwell. When well, the pupil does attend well and we have always maintained very positive relations with, and engagement from the family.

Attendance without these two pupils only moves to 77.7%. Attendance in Key stage one has been impacted by COVID relatively more than other bases in school.

Key stage 2

Key stage 2 has strong attendance.

In spite of this the data does include a pupil attendance of 61.44% which has been the result of significant health needs. If we remove this pupil data from the overall key stage data the figure shifts to 87.1

Key stage 3

At 90.6% this is a very pleasing attendance figure for this key stage.

30% of pupils in this key stage have attendance in the 80-90% range with the remaining 70% achieving 90%+ attendance. There are no 'outlying' low attenders.

Key stage 4

KS4 represents five pupils.

One pupil has not attended all year for COVID / health related reasons. Removing this data from the Key stage revises the attendance figure to 88.65%. In addition to this, and still contained within this figure, we have one pupil who has experienced some significant health issues during the year which has had quite an impact upon their attendance. For the benefit of the wider consideration, if this pupil's attendance data was also removed, the attendance for key stage 4 would be 91.21%.

Sixth form

At 89.94% attendance in sixth form is relatively strong.

This figure includes a pupil who was removed from school and home educated. Advice was sought from the SEND team and Attendance and Enforcement. A light touch approach was advised, as this

pupil was in year 14 and not of statutory school age. If we remove the attendance data for this pupil, sixth form have a revised figure of 94.93%.

Local Authority Support

Attendance support is now provided by the Local Authority. Weekly / fortnightly meetings began in the Summer term and served to help us (LA and school) to identify the best way for us to move forward with half termly meetings next academic year. This supportive move from the LA is in direct response to the new attendance guidance for 2022/23, which stipulates:

The government expects schools and local authorities to

- **promote good attendance and reduce absence, including persistent absence;**
- **ensure every pupil has access to full-time education to which they are entitled;**
- **act early to address patterns of absence**

These meetings this year also served to help Jennie Holt (LA) to begin to understand more about The Dales School and our cohort, and the factors that influence attendance for our pupils.

We mutually decided to focus on pupils who had attendance below 70% for at least one term this academic year. This served to identify short term attendance drops and those more chronic attendance concerns, which in turn helped us to RAG rate all pupils on roll as a pre-cursor to attendance monitoring and actions that may be required next academic year inline with new guidance : School Attendance guidance for maintained schools, academies, independent schools and local authorities May 2022 and Summary tables of responsibilities for school attendance guidance for maintained schools, academies, independent schools and local authorities published May 2022 and applies from September 2022.

Jennie Holt will no longer undertake this role and Sarah Fawcett will be our new liaison regarding School Attendance.

Termly considerations:

During the Autumn term – 20% of pupils had less than 70% attendance

Spring term – 26% of pupils had less than 70% attendance

Summer term – 13% of pupils had less than 70% attendance