



# Why school attendance matters, and what we're doing to improve it



[Why school attendance matters,  
and what we're doing to improve  
it – The Education Hub](#)

**A pupil who misses more days of school is likely to achieve worse grades in their GCSEs.**

**GCSE**



# Does being absent from school affect my job prospects and earnings?

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**



**The chances of being in sustained employment for 12 months decreases by around 60% for pupils who are persistently absent (10% or more absence).**

**The chances of being in sustained employment for 12 months decreases by around 75% for pupils who are severely absent (50% or more absence).**



# How attendance affects attainment

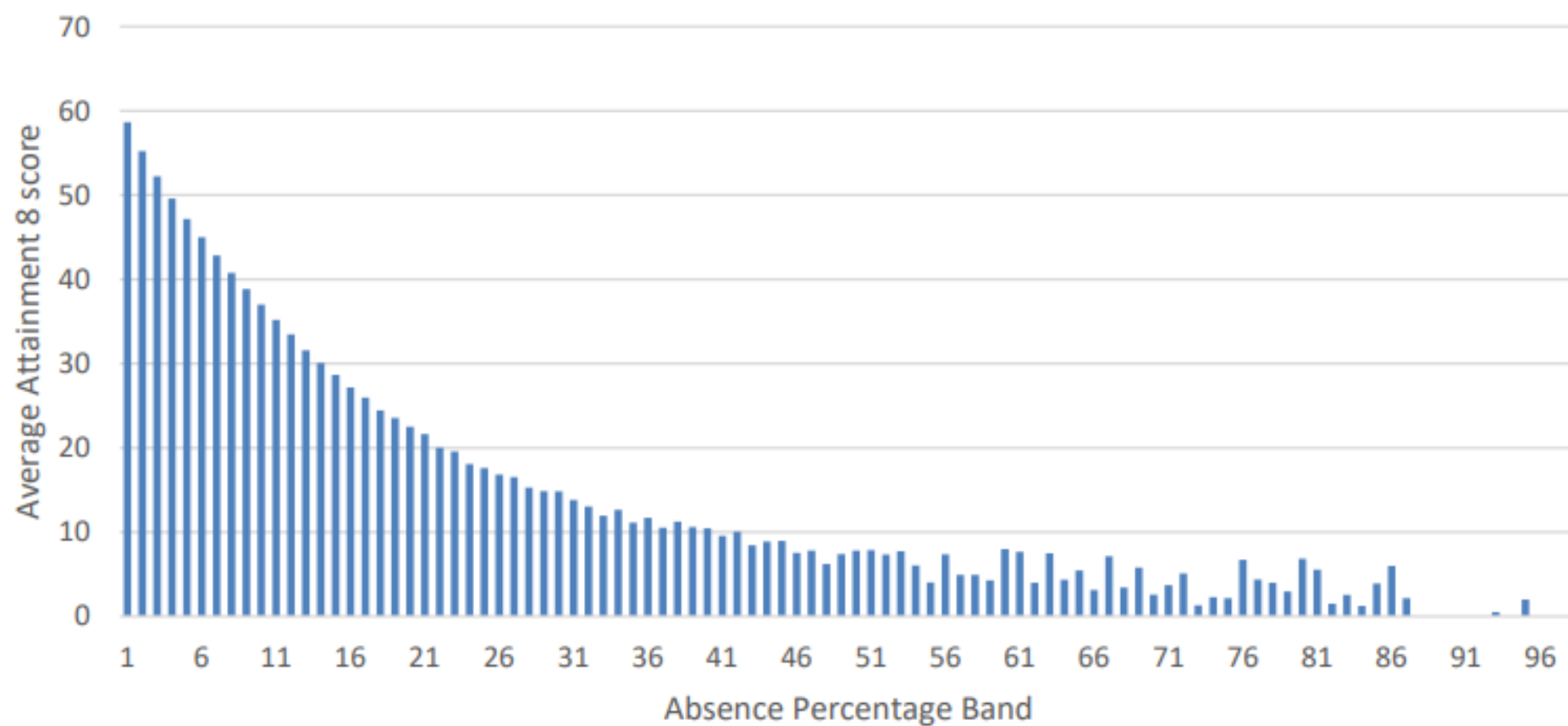


Recent research by the Department for Education shows just how closely [attendance](#) and attainment are linked.

Year 11 pupils with near-perfect attendance are almost twice as likely to achieve grade 5 in English and Maths GCSE, compared to similar pupils attending 90-95% of the time. In other words, missing just 10 extra days a year reduces the likelihood of achieving these grades by around 50%.

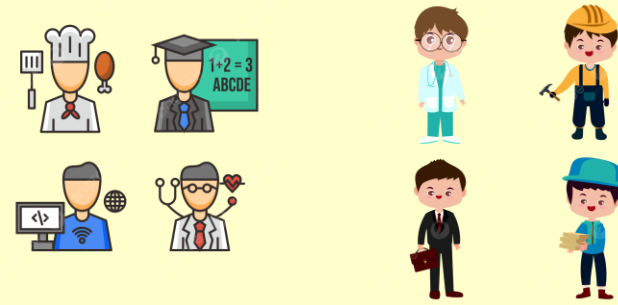


## Average Attainment 8 Score by Absence Percentage Band- Full Dataset





# The long-term impact on earnings



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Missing school doesn't just affect exam results and a child's time in education – it can impact future earnings too.

Persistently absent pupils in secondary school could earn £10,000 less at age 28 compared to pupils with near-perfect attendance.

For each additional day of absence between Years 7 to 11, the typical pupil could miss out on an average of £750 in future lifetime earnings.



Average Earnings at 28 by Absence Percentage Band- (2024 prices).

