

Castle Newnham

TRADITIONAL VALUES, BRIGHT FUTURES, ONE JOURNEY

YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENING



MONDAY
9TH FEBRUARY

Welcome

Mr Herridge



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Year 11 2025 Results - Best Ever for Pupils @ CN

Castle Newnham

Students and staff at Castle Newnham School are celebrating an “excellent” set of GCSE results today, as the Class of 2025 mark a proud milestone in their academic journey.



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Your Future, Your Choice



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Key Stage 4 Studies

A Foundation for Your Child's Future

Mr Stevens



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Options Timeline

Date	Milestone
5th February	Options Assembly Launch: Including introduction to new GCSE subjects.
9th February	Options Information Evening
9th February	Curriculum Review & Options Intention Form: Shared with pupils.
9th February	Parent Enquiry Form: Shared with families.
23rd February	Pupil Interviews Commence
16th March	Year 9 Academic Consultation: Including the pupil-led Subject Fair.
19th March	Parent Enquiry Form Closes.
20th March	Options Form Closes: Final deadline for pupil submissions.
June 2026	Final Allocations: Choices sent home & "Request for Changes" form opens.
9th July	Request for Changes Form Closes.
September 2026	Two-Week Review: Pupils must complete 2 full weeks of learning before any further change requests are considered.
21st September	Request for Changes Form Reopens.
25th September	Final Deadline: Request for Changes form closes for the academic year.



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What is the process?

KS3 Curriculum Feedback and KS4 Options Intentions Form:



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What is the process?

Options Query Form:



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What is the process?

Link to Options Page on the School Website:



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The Power of Good Attendance

Mr Mills



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National Attendance - National 'Hot Topic'

Press release

Record attendance gains unlock over £2bn in future earnings

School attendance in England has surged, with 5 million more days in classrooms and 140,000 fewer persistently absent pupils



School absence a big factor in child mental illness in England, data shows

9 Sept 2025 18.53 BST



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Some National Stats

The latest government research (March 2025) found that pupils with an attendance of 95-100% are:

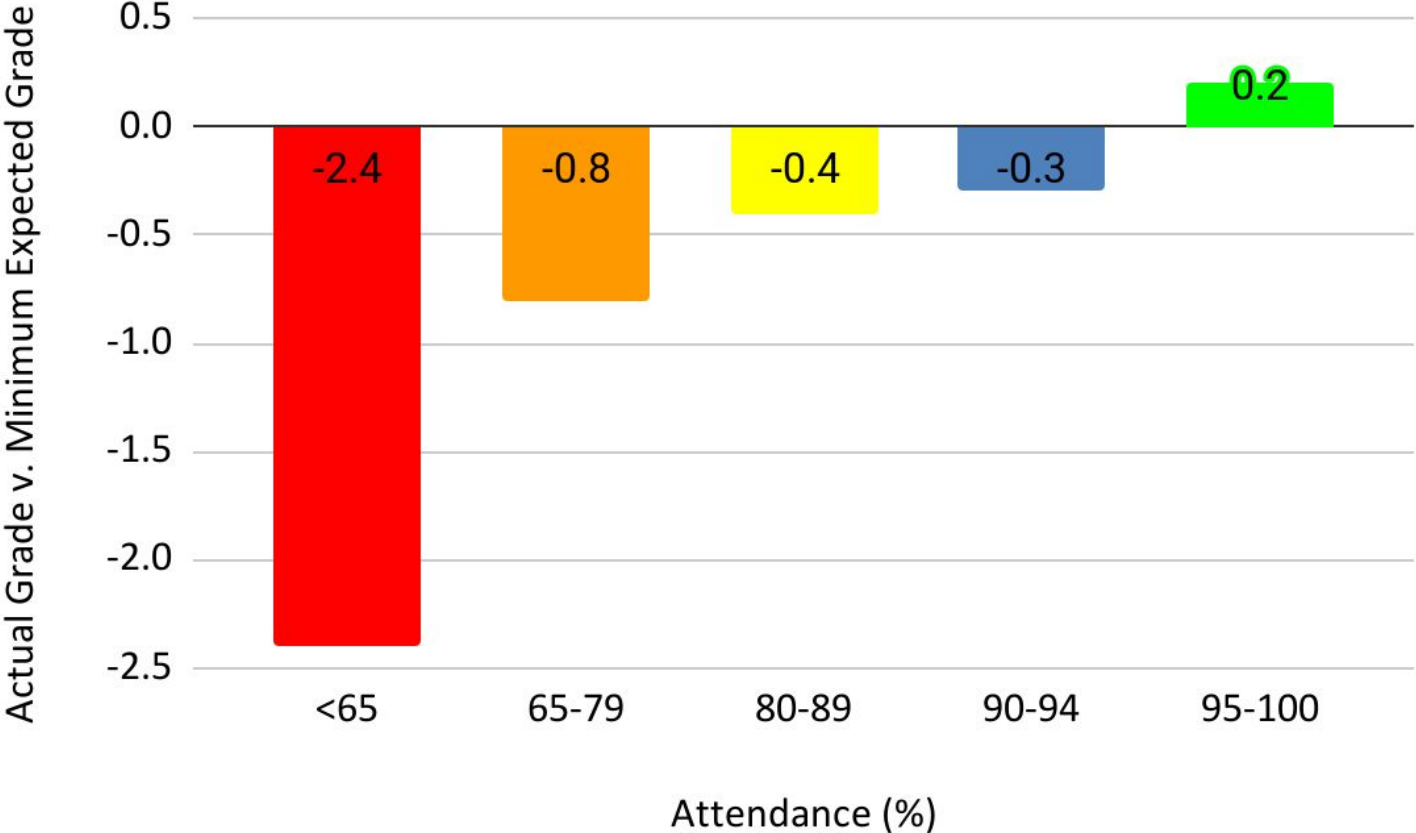
- **2 times more likely** to achieve a Grade 5 in English and Maths than pupils with an attendance of 90-95% over the same time
- **3 times more likely** to achieve a Grade 5 in English and Maths than pupils with an attendance of 85-90% over the same time

This means missing just 10 days of year 11 reduces the likelihood of achieving grade 5 in English and Maths by around 50%.



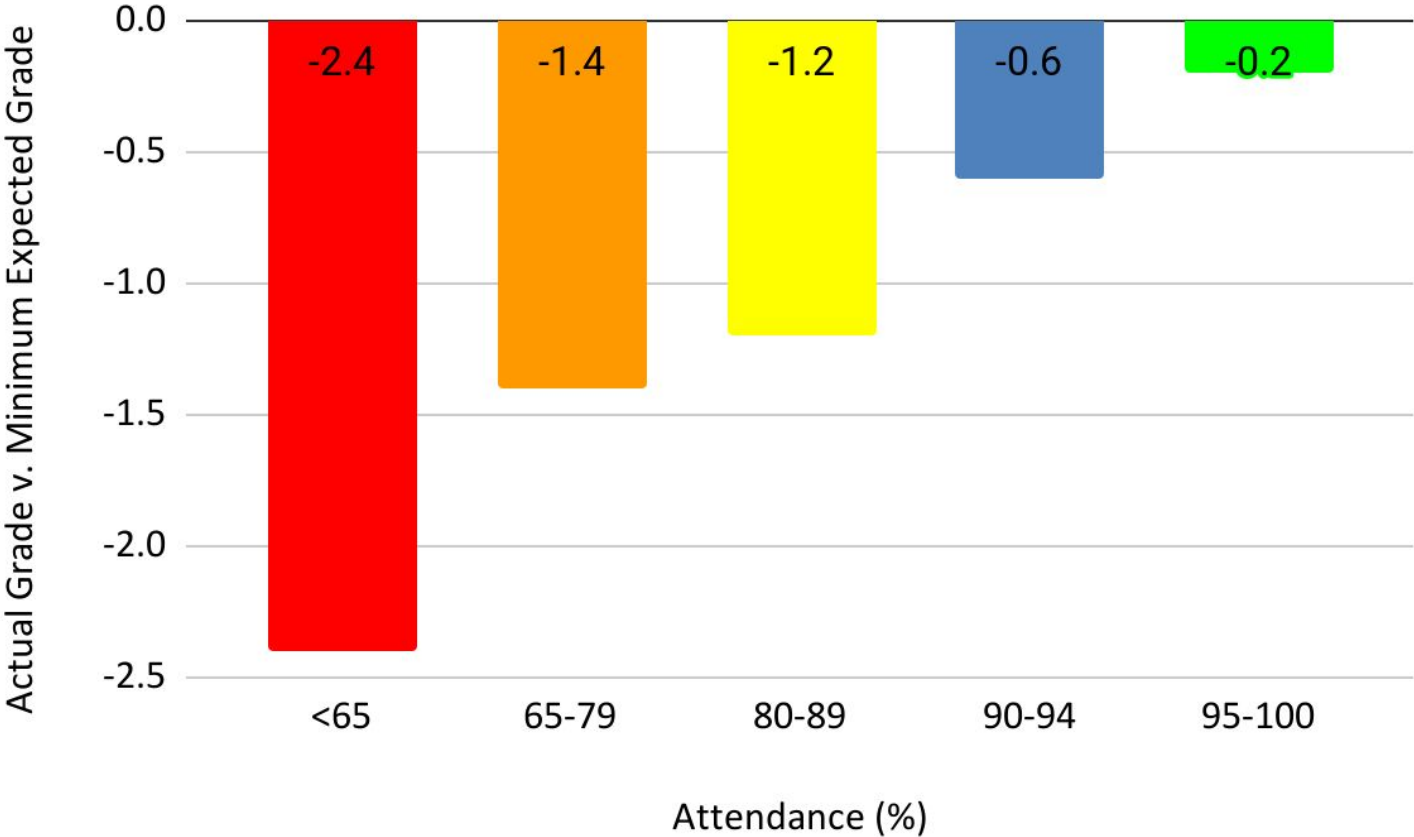
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Our School - Year 11 2024



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Our School - Year 11 2025



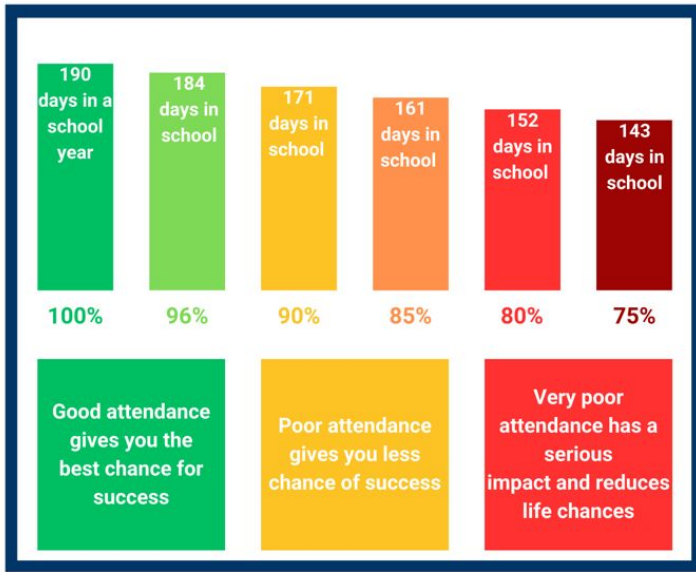
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Small numbers make a BIG difference

98% = 4 days = 20 lessons

95% = 9 days = 45 lessons

90% = 20 days = 100 lessons



AIMING FOR EXCELLENCE

Did you know that going to school can help you:

Achieve your dreams: Become the best you can be!

Land that dream job: Boost your chances of getting a cool career you love.

Become a pro at life: Learn how to handle challenges and take care of yourself.

Feel awesome: Learn how to deal with stuff that might be stressing you out.

★



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Post 16 Preparation

Mr Stark



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Next Steps Starts Now!



Year 10 October - May	Open Days / Post-16 Education Attend open days now if you can. GCSE lessons, PSHE Lessons and a 1:1 Careers Guidance Interview
Year 10 June	Year 10 Exams First GCSE Predicted grade. These will be used on their next steps applications.
Year 10 June - July	Year 10 Next Steps Careers Fair Post-16 providers -> Opportunity to learn more
Year 11 September	Open Days Applications (Colleges/6th Forms) Most providers will host open days and have an application window between September and January. We hope to secure most pupils a placement by then!
Year 11 April	Apprenticeship Vacancies and Applications Many employers will start advertising apprenticeship vacancies around the start of the new financial year.
Year 11 May	GCSE Examinations Secure those grades - confirming likely destinations



Post 16 Destinations

Post 16 Destination	Qualification Type	Minimum Entry Requirements
Sixth forms A level colleges	A Levels & BTEC's	On average 5 GCSE passes at grade 4, including English and maths. Colleges and Sixth forms will have their own entry requirements for each subject. BTEC's usually require lower grades than A level courses.
Colleges Vocational courses	Level 2 Qualifications	3 GCSEs at grade 3 including English and Maths or a qualification at Level 1
	Level 3 Qualifications	4 GCSEs at grade 4 including English and Maths or a Level 2 qualification
	T Level Qualifications	4 GCSEs grades 9-4 including English, Maths and Science or equivalent
Apprenticeships Level 2 and Level 3	Linked to college courses and T level Qualifications.	

English and maths will need to be continued at any post 16 destination should a grade 4 not be achieved at GCSE.



Key Stage 4 Studies

Pastoral Care and Support

Ms Waheed



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Pastoral support during options process

- **Structured Core-time discussions about option choices**
- **Assemblies focused on decision-making and wellbeing**
- **One-to-one guidance for pupil**
- **Support for pupils feeling pressure**
- **There is someone to talk - Core Tutors, Head of Year, in Link**
- **Please do contact your child's Core Tutor if you feel that your child requires any additional support**



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Your Action Plan

- **Review the Options Intention Form**
- **Prioritise Attendance**
- **Consider Post-16 Opportunities**
- **Save the Date: 16th March - Parent Consultation and Subject Fair.**



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Please make use of the staff that are here to answer any of your questions.

Thank you again for attending!



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Options Intentions



Options Query



Options Website Page

