



### **School Attendance nationally recognised**

We were pleased to see SBL Academy mentioned this week as being one of the top 25 most improved schools in England in terms of student attendance. We were particularly pleased to see this acknowledgement as this improvement has come about as a result of fantastic support from our parents and carers, determination from our students and through the daily diligence and care shown by our staff.



We are often asked how we have improved the attendance of our students and whilst we believe that we have very strong systems for monitoring attendance, recognising good attendance and tackling poor attendance we also know that the main reason for this improvement is due to the whole school improvements that we have put into place to ensure that students have an enjoyable and rewarding education at SBL Academy. At the heart of this development has been our work to ensure that we have a strong school ethos where students feel safe, happy and secure, personal standards are high, students are challenged and that individual needs are cared for.

In particular, the most pleasing feedback we have received in terms of attendance data is in respect of our more vulnerable learners. We have noted that, for this group of students, attendance rates have been consistently strong and that our school has regularly been placed at the top of local authority performance tables for this group of students.

With the challenges brought by the pandemic we consistently review our work in this area and consider what we can do to ensure that student wellbeing and enthusiasm for school and education is maintained. We were pleased that the efforts of students, staff and families has been recognised and we look forward to improving still further in 2021/22.

17<sup>th</sup> September 2021