

## Truancy Figures Fall in MK

Truancy falling in Milton Keynes under this Government

Mark Lancaster MP & Iain Stewart MP have welcomed the news that the number of pupils persistently skipping school in Milton Keynes has fallen by 26.8 per cent since 2010.

In 2009/10 2,025 pupils were persistently absent from school, but this has fallen to 1,482 in 2012/13.

Mark & Iain commented:

"The evidence shows that persistent absence for school has a serious detrimental effect on pupils' performance and so it is great news that, thanks to this Government's actions, truancy has dramatically reduced in Milton Keynes.

This Government is reintroducing rigour into our schools, ensuring high standards of discipline are maintained, and our EBacc means that more young people are studying for the key academic subjects that will help them get a job."

Education Secretary Michael Gove said:

"There is no excuse for skipping school. We have taken action to reduce absence by increasing fines and encouraging schools to address the problem earlier.

These figures show we are making progress, with 130,000 fewer pupils regularly missing school under this government.

Alongside our measures to give teachers powers to search pupils and impose same-day detentions, this demonstrates our determination to get tough on bad behaviour."