



VVHS Attendance FAQ

Attendance at a traditional high school is taken in each period. Does Vanguard's attendance work the same way?

Yes, attendance for each class is taken individually. It is possible for a student to be marked present for some classes and absent for others on the same day. If a parent and student receives an absence notification, the parent and student should check Skyward to determine in which class(es) the student was marked absent.

If my child is marked absent, should I assume they are behind in a class?

In addition to being marked absent for being behind in classwork, students can also be marked absent for missing homeroom or VIM. If a parent receives the first absence notification during the week on a Wednesday, it is likely the student missed homeroom. Homeroom absences will show up in your Skyward account under 5th period. If VIM is the reason for your child's absence, students and parents will see a full-day absence on the Wednesday they were supposed to attend VIM. Most times, those students are also behind in at least one class; parents can determine in what period the student is behind based on the attendance code that is used. The "U" code will be used for a VIM absence, and a "W" code will be used to indicate a class or homeroom absence.

Can I work ahead in my classes?

Students may choose to work ahead within each week's worth of work. This is not an expectation, but it is part of the flexibility that is built into our school's mostly asynchronous environment. Teachers will have suggested deadlines for work within each week. However, the final deadline for each week's work is Friday at 2 pm.

How will my attendance be affected if I do not meet the teacher's suggested due date within a week?

Because we want our students to be able to utilize the flexibility of the asynchronous environment, weekly attendance begins on Friday at 2 pm; therefore, missing a suggested due date within the week does not affect a student's attendance before that time. If a student does not complete the work by 2 PM Friday, they will be marked absent until the work is completed.

If a student gets behind in a class, should the student work on current work or old work? What if the student is behind because the student was sick?

Students are responsible for all work in all their classes. If a student gets behind for any reason, the student should always be working on current work while making up missed work from a previous week.

Can or should students work on the weekends?

Since most teachers will publish the coming week's work at the end of the day on the previous Friday, students may work on the following week's work on the weekend. If a student uses the weekend to catch up on work, any accrued absences will still apply.

When should a parent submit a note regarding a student's absence? What if the absence is planned ahead of time?

We suggest that parents wait until the student is marked absent and the parent has received the absence notification. This is because some students work ahead during the week or may be able to get some work done and then compensate for any missing work within the same week.

When should a medical note or a parent note be submitted for a student's absence?

Because of the flexibility built into each week at our school, some students may not incur an absence even if they are sick for a day or two within a week because they may still be able to complete their required work by Friday at 2 pm. After a student is marked absent, parents should email the appropriate documentation (either the parent note or a medical excuse). With the new policy, a parent note or official documentation can be used to excuse the first five days that a student is absent each semester. After five absences have been accrued, additional absences for that semester will need official documentation (ex. Doctor's note) in order to be excused. Notes and documentation must be received within 5 days of the absence in order to be accepted.

My child has a planned absence coming up, can I get his/her work early or have grace with the absence?

Work is released every Friday at 2 PM, students can begin working on it as soon as it is released and it is their responsibility to get it completed by the following Friday at 2 PM. If students do not complete the work on time, they will accrue an absence. Students with an excused absence are given a set amount of time to complete the missed work. We suggest that parents wait until the student is marked absent and the parent has received the absence notification before notifying us of the anticipated absence. This is because some students work ahead during the week or may be able to get some work done and then compensate for any missing work within the same week.

My child is a senior and is working to be exempt from exams, what are the attendance requirements?

Seniors must have an A average and have no unexcused absences. Exemptions are by individual class, so your student may be exempt in one class but not another. Please remember that notes to excuse absences must be received within 5 days of the absence. This means you cannot send in notes to excuse absences for the semester in December or May with any documentation.

Our wifi/internet is not working. Is this an excused absence?

No, families who choose to participate in VVHS are responsible for providing their own access to the internet. Students are welcome to attend HUB days but need to be able to access the internet five days a week to meet the academic demands of their classes. In cases of temporary outages, you are welcome to contact us to schedule additional appointment times at the HUB.