



BELLMONT HIGH SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE POLICY 2026-27

Limited Excused Absence Policy Changes

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Students are expected to be in attendance every day. Understanding that sickness, doctor appointments, family business, etc. happen, Belmont has provided historically a limited number of days each semester that have supported most students' needs. And, most of our student and families have used these days responsibly. Others have had extenuating circumstances which have required them to miss more than the allowable number of days, and we have gladly worked with their families and them to meet their needs. A few, however, have viewed these days more as vacation days to be used at will.

Now that attendance is being more strictly scrutinized by the State and is a requirement for several new diplomas, Belmont is changing its attendance policy to encourage students to manage absences more intentionally and on a yearly basis, which corresponds more closely with many employers' practices. Keep reading to see what these changes mean for your student.

WHAT CHANGED? SY 2025-26 vs. SY 2026-27

SY 2025-26 (OLD)	SY 2026-27 (NEW)
Excused Absence Limit	
5 days per SEMESTER	6 days per YEAR
Tracking Period	
Per semester (resets each semester)	Per school year (full year count)
After Limit Reached	
Absences after 5th coded as Unexcused unless exempt or approved by administration	Absences after 6th coded as Unexcused unless exempt or approved by administration

ABSENCE	25-26 INTERVENTION PER SEMESTER	26-27 INTERVENTION PER YEAR
1st-5th	Calls home; Letter at 5 th absence .	Calls home.
6th	1 hour After-School Detention.	Email home.
7th	2 hour After-School Detention.	Student meeting with Assistant Principal; Call and letter home
8th	Saturday School.	1 hour After-School Detention; Email home.
9th	3 days ISS; Loss of driving privileges.	2 hour After-School Detention; Call home.
10th	3 days RISQ; Parent Conference.	Saturday School; Email home.
11th	5 days RISQ; Truancy Report filed with DCS.	Saturday School + lunches w/ admin until work made up; Letter hand-delivered home.
12th	10 days RISQ; Referral to Prosecutor; Conference.	3 days ISS; Parent Conference.
13th		5 days ISS; Loss of driving privileges to school; Call home.
14th		3 days RISQ: Call and letter home.
15th		5 days RISQ; Juvenile Truancy Report filed with DCS; Call and letter home.
16th		10 days RISQ; Referral to Prosecutor; Conference.

This infographic focuses on changes to the Limited Absence policy only. For a complete description of all attendance policies, including exempt absences, unexcused absences, truancy, and elearning attendance, see the BHS Student Handbook on the BHS website. Also, if your student has an extenuating circumstance which may impact attendance, please contact Mr. Pranger (prangerm@nadams.k12.in.us) to make special accommodations for their attendance.