

ATTENDANCE ROADMAP



Stowe Valley
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
SAFEGUARDING & CHILD PROTECTION

In line with the DFE statutory guidance we offer a supportive attendance process based on relational, needs-led, stepped approach. Our schools will offer a welcoming ethos with high expectations for all.

We will assess data to identify absence trends and use prevention discussions/meetings with families to listen, understand and support to remove barriers. Where needed we will formalise support to nurture improvement and only as a last resort we will consider intensifying support &/or enforce legal action.

EARLY ABSENCE SUPPORT

We move to this step if the child's absence is near to the national threshold for absence (10 sessions absence) to prevent further absence occurring and reaching the national threshold. Discussions and meetings will be offered to identify if early support or reasonable adjustments are needed. This will be done by using connection discussions (student/parent) and connection meetings. An early help assessment could be initiated as a further form of intervention to support attendance improving.



1 IDENTIFY, ASSESS AND PREVENT

Our daily actions and processes aim to promote relationship building with children and families to prevent absence. We will monitor daily absences and track data trends or absence patterns to inform our conversations with you (and your child where age allows). The trigger for conversations is where absences are at risk of reaching the new national threshold of 10 sessions (this is either 10 half days absent or 5 full days absent) within a 10 week rolling period.

Other daily actions involve promoting attendance positively using praise and incentives, swift daily absence follow up, emails and letter communication to raise your awareness of emerging concerns and doing home visits to meet our safeguarding duties as required.



WARNINGS-CONCERNS REMAIN

Where step 2 or 3 support has been unsuccessful or attendance has declined, a 'formal warning' letter or 'notice to improve' letter will be issued to reinforce the need for immediate improvement in attendance. A family court order such as an Education Supervision Order will also be considered as an alternative to prosecution.



3 FORMALISED SUPPORT

Where absences continues and initial support needs to be increased, an attendance contract (AC) will be offered to formalise support. This is a 3-6 month nurturing plan of support to help improve attendance and prevent further absences. Achievable and individual targets will be set and reviewed regularly. For long term and complex absences, medical information or evidence may requested to support the school in planning the accurate support for the child and family at this time.



LEGAL ACTIONS-NO IMPROVEMENT

Legal Action (Fixed Penalty Notice) MAY be requested by the Local Authority if unauthorised term time absence is taken or your child's overall absence continues to occur and reaches or exceeds the National threshold for absence, despite STEPS 1-4 being attempted. Statutory guidance states a referral to Children's social Care for Children with severe absence (Less than 50%) should be considered to obtain 'intense support'.



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