

The young person has a responsibility:

- > To go to school
- > To arrive on time
- > To register attendance AM and PM
- > To engage with learning and
- > To tell an adult if there is something that is not going well for you.

The parent has a responsibility:

- > To encourage and check child/young person goes to school.
- > To maintain contact with school about attendance
- > To seek advice and support including medical if pupils are not attending school without delay.

Highly Vulnerable Pupils (HVP)

- > To identify and monitor those vulnerable pupils with poor attendance
- > To offer support to improve attendance including the offer of a Families First Assessment
- > To ensure professionals involved are made aware of daily/weekly attendance and
- > To liaise with staff and support services working with pupils

The class teacher has a responsibility:

- > Needs to know the valuable pupils and check they are attending each day and
- > To report non-attendance to the pastoral team and to work with them to facilitate improvements.

The designated safeguarding lead or senior leadership team has a responsibility:

- > To update key staff with changes to vulnerable pupil list and information of those supporting each pupil
- > Ensure all those professionals involved to be invited to child in need and TAF meetings.

The social worker/Families First worker has a responsibility:

- > To know the attendance of children you are working with.
- > To follow up with parent/child non-attendance how it can improve.
- > To seek support from the education welfare service

Blaenau Gwent Education Welfare service has a responsibility:

- > To support schools/parents/social workers/families first to improve school attendance.
- > To review and identify strategies to improve attendance and
- > To ensure that the local authority's statutory duties regarding school attendance are followed.

Why is attendance so poor?

- > Ask the school for a registration certificate
- > Look at the reasons for absences they authorised or are they

If any of the following are considered or mentioned, then the correct local authority team needs to be consulted:

- > New school place, parents need to contact the admissions team. Consider this carefully, it is not always the right pathway for your child.
- > Managed moves speak with the inclusion team.
- > Fixed term/permanent exclusion speak with the inclusion team.
- > Reduced/partial timetables speak to the school EWO. They should be very short term and agreed by the parents and monitored regularly with the local authority informed.
- > Breakfast clubs after school clubs - ask school.
- > Home education -speak with the inclusion team.
- > Medical needs, seek the guidance of the school ALNCO and school EWO.

Key messages:

- > Every school day counts.
- > Schools are safe spaces/protective factors.
- > They act as respite time for parents experiencing crisis.
- > Attendance often can be a problem early in a child's school career - the impact of this is immense.
- > Everyone involved with the pupil should encourage good attendance from nursery classes through to the end of statutory school age at the end of year 11.

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