

Attendance OBA events reoccurring outputs and suggestions

Data development

1. Knowing the names of children/families who are absent at a local level so that they can be targeted.
2. Improving 'coding' of attendance data / breaking down data – ie sickness type / the months in which holidays are taken etc.
3. Improving the quality of attendance data and recording and or improving confidence in attendance data.
4. Identifying indicators of non attendance early – i.e. through health appointments and at children's centres.
5. Identifying trends for non attendance in families.

Best ideas – what works best - ideas that regularly came up

1. Early intervention – ie through children's centres.
2. Taking a consistent approach to attendance eg treating non attendance at a health visitor appointment in the same way as a school. Also identifying trends early – ie in non attendance at HV apps as a precursor for non attendance at school and addressing this as an attendance issue.
3. Incentivise attendance (for children/young people and their parents – engage local businesses in doing this).
4. Information sharing – between settings/providers/agencies.
5. Targeting families early when there are indications of low / or when siblings have been low attendees.
6. Ensure the accurate and detailed recording of data – if this is already happening then we need to communicate this.
7. Ensure seamless transitions (ie children Centres to primary, primary to secondary, transfer of info from health etc).
8. Cluster (city) wide policy on attendance – encompassing health, children's centres, schools.
9. Closer working with the police/PCSOs – door knocking / truancy patrols/ early response
10. Using the school nurse to work with children / families where illness is a recurring problem
11. Implementing an agreement between schools (high school and primary) regarding school holiday dates including training days – at cluster level if not city wide.
12. Walking buses for children who are often late
13. Need for an integrated multi-agency early intervention response
14. Become better at engaging parents in school – open events, back to school days, open door policy, children's centres helping with the transfer from CC to primary school

15. Engaging parents generally in the agenda – helping them understand the importance of attendance.

Good or initiative ideas / off the wall ideas

- Set up contract with family when a child starts school and then develop policy around attendance and follow up on non attendance
- Use of technology – texting young people to get them out of bed
- Developing pride in the local area and the local school
- More use of Peer Support
- Change the patterns of school holidays to better suit parents needs