



# Attendance Strategy

## Our vision

The vision for education at North Baddesley Junior is clear and consistent: to make education outcomes for all North Baddesley children the best they can possibly be. For this to happen children need to attend school regularly where they can access an education that is tailored to their needs.

This document sets out what we all need to do to achieve this vision. Our work will focus on four priorities. These are:

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- 1. That parents meet their responsibilities to ensure their child(s) attend school regularly,**
  - 2. That schools have effective leadership and management of attendance in place,**
  - 3. That partners provide additional needs-based support that contributes to improvements in attendance,**
  - 4. That a high profile of the key attendance messages is maintained in the community.**

*Our aspiration is for North Baddesley children to attend school more regularly than their peers nationally.*

### Priority one

**That parents meet their responsibilities to ensure their child(ren) attend school regularly.**

We know that parents have the greatest influence on their children's lives and will want what is best for them. Therefore, ensuring that children are school ready from the first day at school until they are ready to leave is part of being a parent. At times parents may need access to support to achieve this but equally may need to be challenged if they are not meeting their responsibility to ensure their child(s) attend school regularly.

Under this priority we will seek to ensure that all parents:

**Understand the need to have high aspirations and expectations for their children.**

**We will do this by**

- Ensuring that messages regularly reinforce the link between good attendance and achievement at school and emphasise how this impacts positively on improving employment opportunities and other life outcomes,
- Highlighting the risks that not going to school regularly can bring,
- Ensuring that parents understand their responsibilities to send their child(ren) to school and the legal consequences if they do not.

## **Understand the need for their child to be school ready**

### **We will do this by**

- Ensuring parents know what we mean by 'school ready' and how this prepares young people for school, college, work and life. For example, the importance of punctuality and reliability to employers,
- Ensuring that schools and parents have access to information about recuperation timescales if their child is sick,
- Ensuring that parents know who they can talk to at their child's school if they have a concern about their child's attendance.

## **Priority two**

### **That North Baddesley has an effective management of attendance in place.**

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School Governing Bodies have to be confident that the school is doing all it can to encourage parents to send their children to school regularly. To do this they need to hold the head teacher and staff to account. It is only through a whole school approach to attendance that sustained improvements can be made.

### **Understand what they need to do to improve attendance**

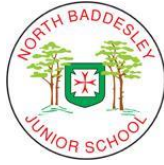
#### **We will do this by:**

- Ensuring governors have a good understanding of what is needed to improve school attendance,
- Reviewing where required improvements in attendance have not been made and putting a plan in place – see strategy flow chart.

### **Have access to support and training to improve attendance**

#### **We will do this by providing training:**

- School attendance training for governors,
- Making best use of attendance data,
- Providing training on effective use of legal processes,
- Providing high quality information,
- At key transition points ensure that pupils with attendance concerns are highlighted through data reports,
- To enable school governors to ask the right questions about attendance e.g., on health-related absence for schools, parents and partners, and on 'what works to improve school attendance.'



## **North Baddesley Junior School Strategy Flow Chart.**

Aim: All children to have an attendance of 96% or better.



## Priority three

**That partners provide additional needs-based support that contributes to improvements in attendance.**

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To achieve the required improvements in attendance this strategy needs to inform and complement the partnerships work. We know that some young people face a range of poor outcomes and barriers that make regular attendance at school only possible through effective partnership working and the use of Early Help Assessments. This is particularly true of those pupils who are chronic absentees who may need to access additional support from outside of the family and school.

So, under this priority we will seek to ensure that:

**Schools identify at an early-stage pupils who are at risk of becoming persistently absent**

**We will do this by:**

- Providing meaningful pupil and school level attendance data that helps to identify those who are known to be vulnerable or at risk of poor outcomes.

**School and partners will put in place effective approaches, assessments and plans for pupils where attendance is a concern.**

**We will do this by:**

- Ensuring that persistent absentees have appropriate plans in place to promote a return to regular attendance at school,
- Ensuring that schools know how to access support from Multi Agency Teams so that every chronic non-attender has a plan in place to help them return to school,
- Ensuring young people with attendance concerns do not miss out on accessing high quality careers.

## Priority four

**That a high profile of the key attendance messages is maintained in the community.**

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Everyone needs to understand what it is that they can do to support improvements in schools' attendance. Given the impact that good school attendance can have on a range of outcomes, different messages targeting different audiences will be needed. Our approach will use different forms of media to ensure that that we reach as many children, young people and parents as possible.

### **For children and young people**

#### **We will do this by:**

- Giving messages that inspire young people to think about plans and goals and where they want to go with their life,
- Identifying and raising the profile of role models in a range of occupations and careers that highlight the importance of a work ethic and working hard in whatever you do,
- Ensure messages from local employers on what they value in future employees are known to young people,
- Ensure young people know who they can talk to in school and out of school if they have a concern or want to discuss their future plans.

### **For parents**

#### **We will do this by:**

- Ensuring that it is clear what is meant by 'school ready' at all ages,
- Ensuring information is available that shows how lost time at school can impact on attainment and future employment prospects,
- Providing refreshed information on recuperation time so that parents know when their child should be well enough to return to school after an illness.