



# DFE Attendance Hub

Willows Academy & The Parks Academy  
Sarah Cox & Mike McGrath

Session 1

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023

...Changing lives

# Housekeeping

- ▲ This session will be recorded so please let us know in the chat if this is an issue.
- ▲ To help the flow of the session, please ensure you keep yourself on mute.
- ▲ As we progress through the session, please pop questions in the chat. The chat is being monitored and we will address as many questions as possible.
- ▲ We have a very brief video message from the Secretary of State, Gillian Keegan, thanking you and participating schools for your work to prioritise attendance.

# Introduction & Welcome



▲ Willows Academy – Lead school of Hub

▲ The Parks Academy – Other Delta school with strong attendance strategies



▲ Delta Academies Trust

▲ Strength of this Hub is two schools in different contexts, different sized schools

# Hub Purpose & Expectations

## **Expectation for hub partner schools**

Schools who have joined an attendance hub are expected to:

1. Commit to implement changes to their attendance practice through the hub.
2. Have a nominated senior leader who will join half-termly hub meetings.
3. Be an active member of the hub and hub discussions and for the nominated senior leader to contribute to the wider group effort to improve school attendance in all schools represented.
4. Share practice with others including actions taken that have significantly reduced absence in their school.
5. Sign up to the DfE pilot school attendance data collection.

# Our Vision

- 1) Every child in school, every day
- 2) Attendance is everyone's responsibility
- 3) Focus on preventative measures and swift intervention
- 4) Strong relationships with parents and children

# Hub School Introductions

We want to find out a little bit more about you. Please can you post in the chat the following: *(In one message)*

- ▲ Name of school
- ▲ Region/Area
- ▲ Main difficulty with attendance
- ▲ What you want to get out of being a Hub Partner School

**e.g. John Smith School, Wakefield, Persistent Absentees,  
Further development of strategies to engage children.**



# Our Approach: What our strategy looks like

## **Effective Academy Attendance Improvement & Management**

- ▲ This strategy is broken into four clear sections:
- ▲ System
- ▲ Prevention
- ▲ Early intervention
- ▲ Formal support

*Show the document*

# What do you need to do ahead of September?

- ▲ Establish clear roles and responsibilities based around your staffing structure – who is doing what? [See Academy Attendance Responsibilities document](#)



# What do you need to do ahead of September?

- ▲ Importance of first week
- ▲ How can you ensure as many children as possible attend school in the first week of September?
- ▲ What incentives can you put in place?

# What do you need to do ahead of September?

▲ As an attendance team, know your data! Know your issues!

Who is currently PA?

Who do you need to target in September?

Are there any key classes/year groups you need to target?

What are the triggers for poor attendance at your school?

# What do you need to do ahead of September?

- ▲ How will you attack the year?
- ▲ Create a timetable of intervention/key dates/CPD
- ▲ *See Overview Calendar*

# Next Steps.....

▲ Implement the strategy, including your calendar

▲ Data

- Historic PAs/ SAs

- Pupils who were absent week one

# Resources

- ▲ Links to all the resources used are on Willows Academy website [Attendance Hub - Willows Academy](#) & Delta Academies Trust's website [Primary Attendance Hub • Delta Academies Trust \(deltatrust.org.uk\)](#)
- ▲ The resources are linked throughout the main document 'Effective Academy Attendance Improvement & Management'.
- ▲ Please share additional questions in the chat

# Reflection

- ▲ What are you going to do now?
- ▲ How can you prioritise the time for this?
- ▲ What can you get done before the summer?

# Dates for next year

- ▲ 11th October 2023
- ▲ 17th January 2024
- ▲ 13th March 2024
- ▲ 22nd May 2024
- ▲ 4th July 2024





# Close

Attendance Hub - Willows  
Academy

Primary Attendance Hub • Delta  
Academies Trust ([deltatrust.org.uk](http://deltatrust.org.uk))

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