



# DFE Attendance Hub

Willows Academy & The Parks Academy  
Sarah Cox & Mike McGrath

Session 2

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 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.

# Introduction & Welcome

- ▲ Willows Academy – Sarah Cox
- ▲ The Parks Academy – Mike McGrath
- ▲ Delta Academies Trust – Vicki Pearson



# Agenda

- Reflections of start of term
- QA on resources and approach
- Commitments
- Next Steps and moving forward

# 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

# Reflections on the start of term...

- ▲ How has the start of term been?
- ▲ What are your successes in implementing parts of the strategy so far?
- ▲ **What did you do to address first week absences and the impact of this?**

# Feedback...

**△ What did you do to address first week absences and the impact of this?**

# Question and Answer Time for resources and approach.

- ▲ Opportunity for schools to ask questions about resources and the approach now that you have had chance to review these.
- ▲ Bring back any unanswered questions.



# Feedback

- ▲ Each group to feedback and share discussions

# Future Plans/Commitments

▲ We are asking schools to commit to key changes they intend to make.

Academy: Primary Academy				
Subject: Attendance				
Attendance Lead:				
Improvement Implementation Plan				
Area for development (why?) What needs to change e.g. teacher behaviour, student behaviour, attainment?	Intervention Description (what?) What are the essential 'active ingredients' of the intervention?  What activities and behaviours will you see when it is working?	Implementation Activities (how?) How will it be done?  What blend of activities are required?	Implementation Outcomes (how well?) How will you know that it is working?  Do teachers feel the approach is feasible and useful?	Final Outcomes (and so?) How will pupils, teachers and the school benefit?
<p><b>Pupils/Families</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a high percentage of PA children that is above national average.</li> <li>% of children absent from school daily is historically above national average/local average.</li> <li>Some parents are not clear on the attendance policy.</li> </ol> <p><b>Staff</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some staff are not always challenging parents for poor attendance.</li> <li>Some staff are not aware of the attendance policy and procedures around attendance.</li> <li>Some staff are not yet proactively supporting good attendance/punctuality in classrooms.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Pupils/Families</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A robust system is in place that tracks PA children and the number is decreasing.</li> <li>Parents are reporting absence according to policy and number of home visits is reduced.</li> <li>Day-to-day absence is increasing and is in-line with national average.</li> </ol> <p><b>Staff</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All staff take responsibility for updating attendance information. Communication between staff and the office is clear.</li> <li>There are clear academy attendance reward systems in place and all staff are aware of their role in promoting and managing these.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritised timeslot daily for attendance meeting between admin, pastoral team and SLT to prioritise and address attendance issues.</li> <li>Home visits completed in line with policy.</li> <li>Weekly PA analysis by attendance lead and admin. This is shared with teachers weekly and analysed by SLT.</li> <li>Termly staff refresher on attendance process.</li> <li>Regular review/tweaks of policy/procedure.</li> <li>Staff meeting on attendance rewards.</li> <li>Weekly assembly with attendance.</li> <li>Whole school attendance rewards process with budget set aside to fund this. (Rewards document)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Short Term</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All rewards procedures up and running and becoming embedded.</li> <li>All staff understand their role and the expectations around attendance that fall upon them.</li> <li>Policy is in place and being followed. Policy has been shared with parents and staff.</li> </ul> <p><b>Medium Term</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Day to day attendance is improving and is becoming more in line with national.</li> <li>PA is beginning to decrease, closing the gap to national.</li> <li>Policy is well-embedded and regularly reviewed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Long Term</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Termly attendances are showing improvement</li> <li>Gaps to national are closed/closing</li> <li>Number of PA children have been decreased</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pupils</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More children in school each day and less children PA</li> </ul> <p><b>Teachers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully onboard with the policy, rewards procedures and the expectations that fall upon their job role.</li> </ul> <p><b>Leadership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have created a culture of consistency and high expectations from all staff in regards to attendance.</li> </ul>

# Feedback

- ▲ What are the common themes/challenges from your group discussions?

# Moving forward...

- ▲ Prioritise written action plan and working with your team, implement key aspects of the strategy.
- ▲ Sessions going forward, thematic discussions regarding attendance topics based on key challenges shared by the group.
- ▲ Expectation that all schools will present on progress they have made in implementing changes to systems in line with their action plan.

# Dates for this year

- ▲ 17th January 2024
- ▲ 14th 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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