



School Attendance Communication

Collaborative Event held on 29/11/23

February 2024

COLLABORATIVE EVENT

The first Collaborative Event was held on 29 November 2023 and was our initial starting point on the journey to improve school attendance. As well as sharing valuable information, we gathered excellent feedback from the event which will inform our next steps.

We would like to share some of the information gathered and also the reference documents and presentations used the event. A Glow Blog – Supporting School Attendance in North Ayrshire, has been created to share this information <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/attendance/>.

[Presentations from the event](#) are available for information.

As well as the Education Scotland [Improving Attendance in Scotland](#) link.

Further information will be added on the key areas of focus as and when available i.e.

- Universal Approaches
- Policies, Processes and Data
- Targeted Interventions and support for vulnerable groups
- Partnership Working

A summary of each area covered at the event are outlined below.

SEEMIS CODES

The challenges highlighted from the Seemis Codes exercise carried out on the day include:

- There is a lack of consistency between schools and staff when using the codes,
- There is a lack of clarity around what each code means.
- There were certain situations that schools felt needed greater guidance around how to code.
- There are too many codes.

Further detailed information on the [SEEMIS Codes Exercise](#) is to review.

DATA AND THEMES

A new [Attendance Data Splash Page](#) has been created on Glow which provides up-to-date data on attendance, this is updated on a monthly basis by our Data Team. The data can be interrogated school by school and in various ways. An overview of the data available was outlined at the event and it is proposed that a short Guidance Document will be created to help schools get the most out of this valuable resource.

ATTENDANCE QUESTIONNAIRE FEEDBACK

The survey sent out in November to gather information on attendance was responded to well and a summary of the feedback is outlined in the [Survey Results](#) document available on the Attendance Blog. Further analysis of this information will take place which will inform our next steps.

ONE LA'S JOURNEY – RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

We welcomed Brigitte Short, an Education Psychologist from Renfrewshire Council, to share their journey on tackling attendance, as outlined by Brigitte, good progress has been made in a short period of time. The presentation, [Renfrewshire Council Attendance Journey](#) is available to review on the Attendance Blog.

TABLE TOP DISCUSSIONS

Feedback on the table-top discussion was very positive and something we hope to continue at future events. Documents relating to each have been uploaded to the [Attendance Blog](#). The table-top discussions are detailed below:

- **Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance (EBSNA) – Research and Guidance**
Fiona McArthur (Senior Psychologist)
- **Self evaluation Tools**
Heather McLean (DPP) and Aisling Shandley (Improvement Officer), Stirling Council
- **Secondary Experience**
Katy Hegarty (Head Teacher) and Philippa McDougall (Deputy Head Teacher), Greenwood Academy
- **Working with partners – Garnock Valley**
Deborah Gardner (NHS) and Scott Morrison (KA Leisure)

COLLABORATION DAY EVALUATION SUMMARY

A [Summary of Attendee Feedback](#) received from the Collaborative Event is available for information. A response rate of 60% was received from the day i.e. 30 attendees responded.

This information will help to inform future events and we thank you for the feedback.

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