

WORCESTERSHIRE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2008-11 DELIVERY PLAN

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SUMMARY

Theme	Priority	Theme Group	Management Group Lead	Partners	Cross-Cutting Theme
Economic success that is shared by all	To remove barriers to employment and improve skills in education, employment and training	Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership	Michael Hunter (WCVYS)	Worcestershire County Council	Community engagement

Indicator	Description	Purpose	Indicator Lead
NI 87	Secondary school persistent absence rate	To reduce the percentage of persistent absentee secondary pupils (those missing 20% or more of the school year).	Steve Wilkinson

Baseline	2008/09 Target	2009/10 Target	2010/11 Target	Target
5.0% 2007/08 (whole year)	4.9%	4.7%	4.5%	Designated

CONSIDERATIONS

Is this priority dependant on any other LAA priorities?	LAA Priority	Theme Group	Arrangement for managing dependency
	N/A	N/A	N/A

Have equality and diversity considerations been made?	Performance and progress is monitored by a range of child specific characteristics including Children in Care. Information reports are being produced to monitor against ethnicity, SEN status, Locality (district & post code) and to review absence against attainment.
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	Risk	Current Impact	Current Likelihood	How managed
What are the significant risks associated with this priority?	Flu Pandemics & seasonal childhood illnesses	minimal	high	Through Business Continuity Plans
	Extreme seasonal weather (flooding & Snow)	none	unpredictable	School closure policy where accessibility is severely impacted

	Policy, plan or strategy	Responsible Theme Group or organisation	Arrangement for managing dependency
Is this priority delivered through or dependant on any other policy, plan or strategy?	Attendance Strategy School attendance policies B&A National Strategy delivery plan Targeted Youth Support strategy Early Intervention Family Support (PSA strategy) Integrated Services Strategy ISL LAC school attendance strategy	Attendance strategy group. School partnerships Behaviour & Attendance Consultants Youth Services Extended Services EWS Matrix Management Board ISL	Integral to overall delivery platform

What arrangements are in place for managing performance of this priority?	Reports to EIG Monitoring of performance via various reports from Integrated services SEWO's & CET managers Reports to Operational Manager – Attendance (Half termly). Half termly reviews with National Strategies Regional Advisor. Named EWO for every school monitor and challenge schools. B&A consultant & SEWO visit each priority schools half termly to review progress. Performance reported to Education Improvement Advisors termly. Termly school census returns to DCSF monitored for all schools. Termly Matrix Management meetings for EWS managers Termly Behaviour & Attendance strategic meetings. Outcomes monitored by CYPP outcome leads
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ACTIVITY PLAN

Action	Who	Milestones / Success Measure	When	Resource Implications	Commentary
Every secondary school allocated EWO support based on matrix allocation	EWS	School profile sent to every school and copies to EWS staff	September 2009	EWS central staff time	
Priority PA schools provided additional EWS support	EWS/ B&A consultants National Strategies ARAA intervention as appropriate	Schools identified as priority gain additional EWO time in their allocation & Provided ARAA support as appropriate	September 2009	EWS resource B&A consultants ARAA time	The additional support available is limited within the capacity of the current EWS staffing levels and the requirement to ensure every school has a named EWO and a level of support.
Work with partners & schools to provide case work to reduce persistent absence	CET/EWS Schools	Those C&YP identified as at risk of becoming PA supported to move out of risk	Ongoing throughout the year/ monitored termly	EWS time/school non-teaching staff	Absence review meetings are conducted with all secondary schools on a regular basis (weekly or fortnightly). Cases are allocated to professionals within that support team. Limited resources with impact on the number of cases that can be supported

Action	Who	Milestones / Success Measure	When	Resource Implications	Commentary
Develop a range of support packages to be traded to schools by the EWS (training for staff)	CET/EWS	Packages are available & promoted and accessed by schools	January 2010	EWS resource taken away from case work	This is new work to be developed and will remove staff resources from casework. It is expected that through training school based staff to better meet the needs of families greater improvements in absence will be forthcoming
Deliver effective use of legal measures to secure regular attendance	CET/EWS & Prosecutions Officer	Cases where legal interventions have been used show improved attendance in the following term	September 2009 Ongoing	EWS resource Prosecutions officer Court availability	Developing the targeting of the various legal measures available will help address inappropriate absence with the right balance of support & challenge
PA network meeting for school & LA staff	SCHOOL attendance Leads/SEWO's/B&A consultants/PEWO	Meeting minutes & attendance rates	1 meeting each term	Attendees time	Termly Network meetings will be arranged by the B&A consultants to provide strategic and practice support to school attendance leads. Sharing & discussing best practice.

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Joint visits by B&A consultant & SEWO to every priority PA secondary school	B&A consultants/SEWO's	Action plans & performance data will be monitor and reported on from each meeting	Half termly	SEWO/B&A consultant time	Regular review meetings will be held with every priority PA school and the outcomes reported back to the Ops Manager – Attendance. These reports will then be collated and reviewed with the Regional Area Advisor for B&A (DCSF rep).
Disseminate & link SEAL materials & practices to improve persistent absence	B&A consultants	More secondary schools sign up to SEAL and it is adopted into their practice	Ongoing	B&A consultant time	SEAL is an ethos of emotional support adopted by schools to enrich the lives of the school community. By encouraging school to look at absence as a sign of other difficulties effect a child's life support can be identified at the early stage to ensure a child is able to attend school even when facing emotional challenges.

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Term Time holiday policy to be produce for schools to adopt and follow	EWS	Policy is approved and sent to all schools. Absence due to term time holidays have reduced	January 2010	EWS time	Schools have the authority to grant up to 10 days holiday in term time. This should be for exceptional circumstances and schools have requested a standard policy for them to provide consistent practice across the county
Strategic consultation to develop activities of Targeted Youth Support to improve Persistent Absence	TYS mangers &Operational Manager-Attendance	Action plans developed and staff focused to work on PA	Ongoing	TYS staff	Targeted Youth Support are being focused to support cases where absence from school is a concern to engage disaffected children with positive activities and youth support
Strategic consultation to develop activities of Early Intervention Family Support to improve Persistent Absence	Early Intervention Family Support &Operational Manager-Attendance	Action plans developed and staff focused to work on PA	Ongoing	EIFS staff	Early Intervention Family Support are being focused to support cases where absence from school is a concern to develop parenting skills to allow parents to ensure their children attend school