EDUCATION WELFARE

Service offer for Independent Schools
Surrey Education Welfare Service

The Education Welfare Service is comprised of knowledgeable and well-trained teams providing bespoke support to schools and academies, addressing attendance issues strategically and through individual casework. Supporting pupils to attend regularly and achieve their full potential.

Introduction:

- Education Welfare has a statutory responsibility to use the law to enforce school attendance.
- In addition, schools can choose to purchase from a menu of supplementary services, delivered by highly specialist personnel, incorporating all aspects of improving school attendance, both with individual pupils and whole school strategic intervention.

Statutory services:

- Investigation of causes for absence for cases meeting the criteria for legal intervention including interviews under caution with parents.
- Fast track case work management for statutory cases.
- All aspects of legal intervention for school attendance offences.

Supplementary services:

- Annual target setting and planning meetings.
- Half-termly register audits to assist schools in identifying vulnerable students and effectively targeting early intervention.
- Regular consultation meetings with key personnel to provide advice on attendance concerns for pupils who do not yet meet the criteria for legal intervention.
- Support and casework for pupils with poor attendance who do not yet meet the criteria for legal intervention.
- Parenting courses and intervention.
- Strategic guidance and support to improve whole school attendance and reduce persistent absence.
- Advice and guidance on all matters relating to the legislation underpinning school attendance and pupil registration, including registration coding and off roll procedures.
- Data analysis.
- Ofsted preparation.
- Bespoke initiatives to improve attendance including attendance panels and late gates.
- Bespoke training for attendance managers, officers and NQTs.
- Whole school audit of attendance processes and procedures.
Benefits:

- The causes of poor school attendance are varied and are often a characteristic of wider safeguarding concerns; the Surrey County Council Education Welfare Officer (EWO) is well placed and equipped to address these concerns.
- Surrey EWOs have excellent training and support. The service is well established and available 52 weeks of the year.
- A proven track record of improving school attendance with research driven interventions that represent excellent value for money.
- Responsive to local needs and to data trends of absence held over the past seven years.
- Ease of access to liaise with Surrey County Council services.
- Established links to liaise with outside agencies such as Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), police, GPs, school health and Surrey’s youth support service.
- A Surrey Education Welfare Officer is regularly assessed on the required competencies to ensure practice is of a high standard, is effective and consistent. The management structure carries out quality assurance of the work of the service, including auditing of case files and observations of practice.

Price:

- Day/hour rates and training rates on Application

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