

## North Presentation Secondary School

## Statement of Strategy for School Attendance

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Name of School

Address

Roll No.

The School's vision and values in relation to attendance

How attendances will be monitored.

North Presentation Secondary School Knockpogue Avenue, Farranree, Cork. 62621

A good education gives students the best start in life, regular school attendance allows students to keep up with schoolwork and experience greater success and enjoyment at school.

- Attendance is monitored daily using Vsware.
- Parents/Guardians are informed by text message of an uncertified absence on the day that it occurs.
- At the weekly Posts of Responsibility meeting the Parents/Guardians of students with 3 or more uncertified absences will be sent another text message to alert them of the situation.
- If students are identified at this meeting of having a cumulative total of 10 days absence the parents are informed of this fact by letter.
- When students reach 15 days of uncertified absences a follow up letter is sent to the Parents/Guardians informing them of their obligations under the Education Act.
- Students who had 20 or more days absence in the previous academic year are placed on a watchlist.
- For LCA Students, an LCA student roll is maintained in their classroom. The students record and take responsibility for their attendance to gain credits in each session of the LCA programme.
- An attendance report is discussed at the monthly Attendance & Participation Meeting. This meeting is attended by the Principal, Deputy Principal, HSCL coordinator, SCP staff and the EWO. The HSCL coordinator will visit families to offer support to Parent/Guardians where attendance is an ongoing issue. Where absences persist the EWO will be informed.

Target setting and targets:

- To reduce the number of (under 16) students absent for 20 days from 32 to 28.
- To reduce the number of days missed by LCA students by 1.8%.
- To improve attendance among the SCP target students who missed over 20 days by 2%.

Summary of the main elements of the school's approach to attendance:

- Target setting and targets
- The whole school approach
- Framoting good

 Responding to poor attendance

The whole school approach:

 All members of the school community students, teachers and parents are aware of the benefits of good attendance at school and their responsibilities in maintaining same.

Promoting good attendance:

- At the induction of First Year students there is a strong emphasis on good attendance.
- First assembly for each year group focuses on punctuality and attendance.
- School attendance week, awards for senior and junior classes with the best attendance records.
- Students with perfect attendance for the previous year receive a certificate at the annual rewards night.
  Responding to poor attendance:
- Texts, letters to parents/guardians as outlined above.
- Meetings arranged with parents/guardians of persistent absentees and Principal/Deputy Principal to explore possible solutions to the situation.
- Subject teachers record attendance for every lesson on Vsware.
- School secretary texts parents on the date their daughter is on uncertified absence from school.
- Year Head/Deputy Principal text parents if student absent for 3+ days in a week.
- Year Head/Principal send letters to parents/guardians It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to ensure that their daughters are in school each day and that they arrive on time. When students are absent or late for school their parents/guardians need to provide the school with an explanation for that absence/lateness.

There are two information meetings with the parents of first year students.

Parents, teachers and students worked together on a policy committee.

The School Completion Programme targets pupils in the school considered to be at risk of leaving education early. Interventions such as homework clubs, lunch clubs, holiday provision, individual and small group work and attendance at support services meetings in the school contribute in a meaningful way to enhance attendance at school.

The Statement of Strategy will be monitored by the school's Board of Management.

The strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the staff and Board of Management February 26<sup>th</sup> 2018

School roles in relation to attendance

Partnership arrangements (parents, students, other schools, youth and community groups)

How the Statement of Strategy will be monitored Review process and the date for review

Date the Statement of Strategy was approved by the Board of Management Date the Statement of Strategy submitted to Tusia

March 5th 2018