



ABSENTEE RESOLUTION FRAMEWORK

The following information is intended to be used as a point of reference in determining appropriate supports and interventions to assure student attendance at school. Attendance becomes a concern for the school when it is clear that lack of attendance will impact the ability of students to meet prescribed learning expectations developed by the Minister of Education.

There are two components associated with addressing student attendance: addressing the causal issues associated with a lack of attendance, and using reasonable, but persistent strategies to assure that parents and students will comply with the legal mandate to attend school.

The Director of Support Services should be consulted when it is deemed necessary by the Principal to engage in supports external to the school community.

Why is the Student not Attending School?

Given the context of the current situation of the student, is the program placement supportive of the child attending school in their designated program.

Is documentation of meetings, commitments, contacts, agreements with parents, etc. available for review?

Have cultural interests and counseling services both internally and externally been addressed?

Have parents been directly involved to support the school in the resolution of the attendance problem?

Upon addressing the causal links to attendance, document steps taken in the following areas:

- Telephone calls to the home;
- Letters informing parents of attendance concerns;
- Meetings with the students;
- Meetings with the parents; and
- Consequences applied.

It is a generally accepted principle of engaging in corrective interventions on behalf of students that a documented escalation of consequences will be applied through time.

Please note that an attendance Board will serve as a last point of resolution to an attendance problem. It is incumbent upon schools to apply all possible interventions to resolve attendance problems, since a submission ultimately indicates that the school has been unable to succeed in resolving the issue.