

# Full Equality Impact Assessment Record

## Section 1:

Service:

CYPIS

Title of strategy, policy or service:

Education Welfare Service

Officers involved in the EQIA:

Simon McLoughlin & Clare Welford

Type of strategy, policy or service (delete below as appropriate):

Existing:



New/proposed:



Changing/Update/ revision



**Q1 – What is the aim of your strategy, policy, project or service?**

The main aims of the Poole Education Welfare Service is to carry out the statutory duties of the Local Authority, monitor school attendance within the Borough and to ensure any children and young people and their parents/carers who are having attendance difficulties are supported in ensuring full school attendance.

The long-term outcome is to ensure that all children and young people who receive their education within the Borough achieve their maximum potential and progress either into further education, employment or training.

Children and young people who have low attendance are shown statistically to achieve lower grades and adults who were persistent absentees are highly represented in vulnerable groups in society (e.g. prison populations, mental health issues). Attendance at school is also related to children and young people's welfare and children who are missing from school are robustly tracked.

As there is a legal duty on parents to ensure their children attend school, they are at risk of prosecution should their children fail to attend. The service has a full time team leader and 5.3 equivalent EWO posts supporting schools within the Borough. In addition there is an 0.5 post dedicated to education issues for children in care, and one full time secretarial/information officer post.

[http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Parents/Schoolslearninganddevelopment/YourChildsWelfareAtSchool/DG\\_4016117](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Parents/Schoolslearninganddevelopment/YourChildsWelfareAtSchool/DG_4016117)  
[http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Parents/Schoolslearninganddevelopment/YourChildsWelfareAtSchool/DG\\_066966](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Parents/Schoolslearninganddevelopment/YourChildsWelfareAtSchool/DG_066966)  
[Is your child missing out? School Attendance: Information for Parents Revised Edition 2007](#)

The leaflet comes in 27 languages and each language is only available as a [download](#) it is for anyone with a child aged between 5 and 16 who is registered at a school and explains their responsibilities for making sure their child attends school regularly.

The Education Welfare Service works in an integrated manner, liaising with all local authority schools within the Borough and providing an audit of attendance. Support and advice is given to teachers. The Education Welfare Service liaises with Children & Young People's Social Care, YOT, the Youth Service, YADAS, Connexions, CAMHS, Relate, Quay Advice and the Educational Psychology Service. The service works closely with the Learning Support Service (for permanently excluded pupils and pupils with health issues) and others within the education service such as Admissions/Exclusions and the full assessment teams.

It supports the service supports a range of legislation, from the 1996 Education Act to various acts, which raise issues of child employment and entertainment. The service also works within the Every Child Matters framework (and outcomes) in addition to local objectives such as those detailed within the Children's Plan for Poole.

**Q2 – Who is it going to benefit and how? If this is a changing function state who will be affected or not longer benefit**

Children & Young People achieving full potential.

Support parents/carers ensuring their children attend school.

**Q3 – What outcomes do you want to achieve?**

Improved school attendance.

**Q4 – Are there barriers to doing this?**

Yes. Some families have social difficulties which may impact on their children.

**Q5 – How will you put this into practice?**

Assessment of family circumstance and reasons for non-school attendance.

## Section 2: Information gathering and judging impact

### Q6 - What existing information and data do you have?

Each case is looked at individually using attendance data.

MARAC data.

Secondary Behaviour and Attendance Group.

Borough of Poole Happy to Help Toolkit for Translation Services and Accessibility Guidance.

### Q7- What does this tell us about the likely impact on different groups?

#### General/all equality groups

#### Age

Secondary school pupils have higher rate of non-attendance, worse towards end of statutory school age.

#### Disability

No significant correlation.

#### Gender reassignment

If gender reassignment resulted in non-attendance the case would be assessed and support given to enable return to school given.

#### Pregnancy and maternity

EWS can be one of the services that pin point's vulnerable children and young people and ensures that suitable support is offered via the Teenage Pregnancy Service. Any young person would be supported to return to school if of statutory school age.

#### Race

Consider ethnicity of any young person and family referred to the service and its impact on school attendance.

#### Sex

Prosecution of more females than males due to more single parent family's being a female parent.

No pattern of male/female caseload.

**Religion or belief**

Example, Jewish Holiday Calendars result in holiday in term time requests. If non-attendance the case would be assessed and support given.

**Sexual orientation**

If a reason for school attendance issues – support would be given and signposting to further support.

**Socially excluded groups**

Domestic Violence , the Team Manager attends MARAC Panel.

Drugs & Alcohol Abuse, signposting for support.

**Q8 - Is there any potential for direct or indirect discrimination? Yes**

**If yes, please use the action plan below to say how this will be mitigated**

### Section 3: Action planning

Issue	Objective/ Intended outcome	SMART action	Performance Target	Lead	Deadline
<b>General equality issues</b>	<b>Monitor faith/ethnicity</b>  <b>Tribal used to monitor collected equality groups &amp; used to analyse for area trends &amp; training needs</b>			<b>SMc</b>	<b>6 months</b>  <b>On-going</b>

If you have any comments, queries or suggestions to be considered as part of this EQIA please email [integrated.services@poole.gov.uk](mailto:integrated.services@poole.gov.uk) or telephone 01202 261974 or Text Relay on 18001 01202 261974.

**EQIA approved by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** March 2012 **Contact number:** 01202 261914 **Review date:** September 2012

Send a copy of your completed screening to your Unit's [Equality Rep](#) and the [Corporate Equality Officer](#) for publication