<u>**Annex 1f**</u>

Flintshire County Council

<u>**Attendance and Exclusions in Flintshire Primary & Secondary Schools:2015**</u>

Background Summary

1.1   School attendance is a high priority both for the Welsh Government and local authorities in their aim to improve standards. Flintshire schools have, in the main, demonstrated a trend of improvement with figures for the secondary sector being consistently above the national average for Wales. Unauthorised absence in primary schools stands at 0.3% and is the second lowest in Wales. In secondary schools it stands at 0.4% and is the lowest value in Wales.

1.2   **Table 1: Flintshire Schools in comparison with Welsh Averages**

	Attendance				Unauthorised absence			
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Flintshire Primary Schools	**94.1**	**94.8**	**94.7**	**94.7**	**0.5**	**0.4**	**0.3**	**0.3**
Wales Average	93.7	94.8	94.9	94.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1
Best in Wales	94.4	95.8	95.8	95.7	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
Flintshire Secondary Schools	**93.3**	**93.8**	**94.2**	**94.3**	**0.4**	**0.5**	**0.3**	**0.4**
Wales Average	92.6	93.6	93.8	94.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Best in Wales	93.6	94.5	94.7	95.0	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.4

Table 1 demonstrates the profile of Flintshire attendance in both Primary and Secondary sectors. To support improved attendance, the LA is working with schools to look at levels of authorised absence.

1.3   <u>**Range of Attendance across Schools**</u>

Table 2 below shows the spread of attendance figures across the primary and secondary sectors. This demonstrates that the majority of our schools have attendance figures around or in excess of the Welsh average. Those schools demonstrating lower percentages reflect the areas with a more transient population. The LA recognises the difficulties experienced by particular schools and additional resources have been allocated in some situations to help support improvement.

Table 2 – Range of Attendance Figures

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Attendance 2015/16 %	<90	90.0-90.9	91.0-91.9	92.0-92.9	93.0-93.9	94.0-94.9	95.0-95.9	96.0-96.9	97.0-97.9	98.0-98.9	99.0-100
Primary schools	1	0	1	3	6	15	19	17	4	1	0
Secondary Schools	0	0	1	1	1	5	4	0	0	0	0

1.4 Permanent Exclusions from School

The number of permanent exclusions from Flintshire schools remains very low in both the primary and secondary sector. The Managed Moves Protocol is now used across all sectors and has helped to support this reduction.

Table 5 - Number of Permanent Exclusions from Flintshire Schools

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Primary	0	0	0	1	0
Secondary	4	1	0	3	3

1.5 Fixed Term Exclusions from School

LA officers continue to work alongside schools to reduce the number of days lost through exclusions. Training has been provided for schools to support the development of appropriate engagement strategies and many schools have developed 'Nurture Groups' in response the needs of their pupils.

Table 6: Fixed-Term Exclusions

Year	Exclusion Type	Number of Exclusions		Rate of Exclusion*	Average days lost
		Primary	Secondary		
2014 - 2015	5 Days or Less	712		30	-
	Wales total	2188	10096	29.9	-
	Over 5 days	40		1.7	-
	Wales total	138	612	1.7	-
2013 - 2014	5 Days or Less	696		29.7	2.1
	Wales total	1992	9789	26.7	N/A
	Over 5 days	42		1.8	9.2
	Wales total	129	579	1.6	N/A
2012 - 2013	5 Days or Less	689		29.4	2.1
	Wales total	1593	10824	27.9	2.0
	Over 5 days	67		2.9	10.7
	Wales total	139	782	2.1	9.7

*Rate per 1000 pupils

The local authority continues to work with schools to reduce the number of school days lost to exclusion. The data shows an upward trend in the rate of exclusions (per 1000 pupils) of 5 days or fewer, 29.4 in 2012/13 to 30.0 in 2014/15 however the rate of increase is significantly lower when compared to the North Wales region.

The rate of exclusion of 5 days or more, highlighted as a concern in the last Local Authority   Estyn inspection, has shown a continuous downward trend, 2.9 in 2012/13 to 1.7 in 2014/15. (Welsh Government statistical releases no longer provide the Welsh comparator for number of days lost). Verified data for 2015-16 is released by Welsh Government in September 2017.