

ATTENDANCE SERVICE NEWSLETTER

Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa Let us keep close together, not far apart.

The Attendance Service is now a team of 17 people. Under the Service there are three areas being delivered and they are the Attendance Service, the Attendance Engagement Strategy and Managed Moves Programme

Attendance has become the discussion point with this Coalition Government with the MoE Attendance + Engagement Strategy launched in 2023 for schools as well as the proposed developments on how the ACES Attendance Service responded to the changing needs and pressures of Auckland City Landscape.

New people bring range of new skills and experiences to complement the teams; however, the role of the Attendance Advisor

takes time and this includes establishing credible relationships with Auckland City Schools, connecting with whānau / families (ākonga when this is necessary) to have the conversations on why their child should be in school as well as defining the concerns preventing ākonga attending every day.

With change, concerns have been identified. For some schools the response and communication is different from previous years and an information document was sent on 9 May 2024 providing a brief overview of the role and responsibilities of ACES Attendance Service and the Attendance Advisor.

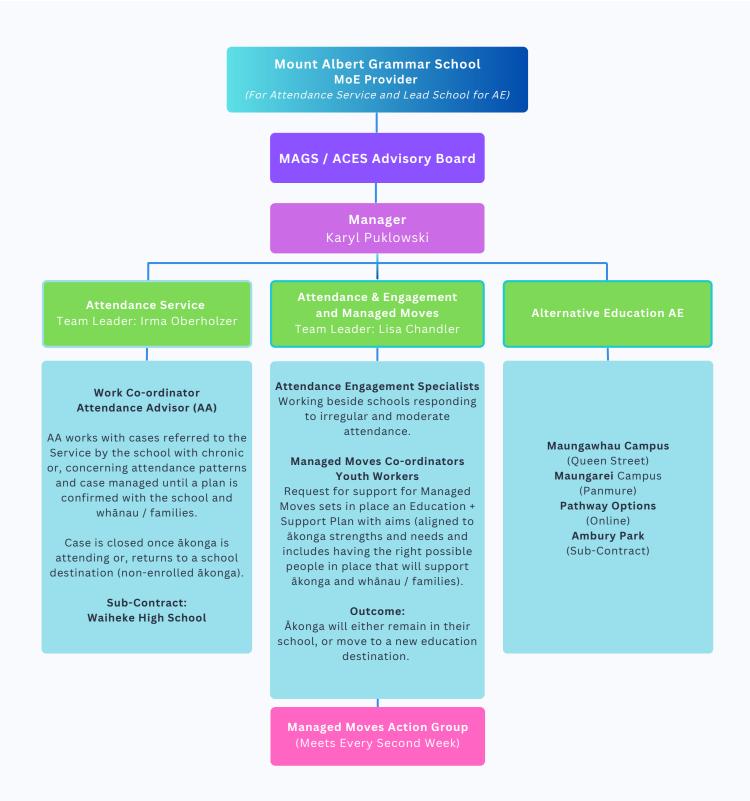
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"Why aren't I in school? I have an app that does that for me."

ACES STRUCTURE



ATTENDANCE SERVICE TEAM



- Irma Oberholzer Team Leader and ASA Work Co-ordinator for the Attendance Service
- 2. Linley Ashmore
- 3. Margie Dobbie
- 4. Ligi Huka
- 5. Mike Niuloa
- 6. Lisa Ropati (started 1 May 2024)
- 7. Aliitasi Sailimalo
- 8. Chloe Wales (started 22 January 2024)
- 9. Hayley Watson

New Team Members



CHLOE WALES
Attendance Advisor



I am Chloe Wales, from the North East of England which faces a high rate of truancy and deprivation. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Childhood & Youth Studies and Level 3 Diploma in Youth Work Practice and lived in America, Australia and Canada which has given me opportunities to experience different cultures and lifestyles.

My work experience is varied, from running a youth centre within my community,

creating personal, social and emotional development programmes and workshops for student support around employment and education. I'm looking forward to my new role and believe every young person should have the support and opportunity to thrive.



LISA ROPATI Attendance Advisor

Introducing me, myself & I, Lisa Ropati. Being results driven, my core skills include building relationships based on cultural respect, loyalty & integrity, "I only promise what I can deliver." Being resilient I am always able to have a positive outlook in the face of adversity. I believe in never anyone without leaving imparting something of value to his or her basket of life. For me it is, He Tangata, He Tangata, He Tangata. I am driven to instill motivation and confidence in others, while seeking positive change.

While overseeing Ministry of Social Development & Ministry of Pacific People Contracts I specialised in working with: Sole Parents, Youth aged 15 years +, provided In-Work Support (pastoral care), Employment Coaching, Work based Train-

ing and Employment outcomes for anyone in receipt of main benefit 18+ years. I worked with clients with mild to moderated Mental Health distress. All roles encompassed working in collaboration and most times with whānau input \ support. During this time I built & maintained relationships with companies and their leaders and also recently completed my Level 5 Adult Teaching & Level 4 Certificate in Bi-cultural Social Practice and look forward to applying this to my daily work. When I am not working I spend time with my family and grandchildren & a grand-dog named Sormi.

The Attendance Service is a national service supporting ākonga who are chronically absent from school or not enrolled, to enrol and regularly attend. To do this the Attendance Service works with ākonga and their whānau, schools and kura, iwi and hapū, community partners and agencies to address the root causes of non-attendance which are often diverse and complex. Services must work within the context of the family and whānau to achieve a sustainable return to school.

ACES Attendance Service

- Will respond to unjustified absence referrals and non-enrolment notifications from schools / kura in a timely manner, and locating the ākonga to return to education or another legal learning environment
- Team Leader receives the notification and triages the case
- (reviews previous information) and allocates to the AA
- AA receives the case and will respond within 48 hours to inform the school they have received the notification and if needed, request any further information
- Reports to the MoE mid-year and annually
- Reports to ACES Advisory Group

How will ACES do this?

(Work-Coordinator)

- The Work Co-ordinator monitors all cases using the internal structures developed to support AA role
- Identify cases that are re-referred and provide history to AA
- Note any patterns e.g. number of NEN notifications from an area and ākonga not being referred to the Service before
- Monitor the KPIs
- Ensure internal reporting systems are being used
- Guide and support the AA with their core roles and responsibilities

How will ACES do this?

(Attendance Advisors)

- AA connects with whānau / families (and ākonga if needed) to define the concerns in the home (this may take several visits) to connect and identify the concerns of why ākonga is not in school
- AA reports to the referring school (at least once a week) to keep them updated and this can be via ASA, 1/1 meeting, email or phone (and/or all of these)
- AA will manage the case based on needs and concerns and this may include referring to other Agencies.
- Once ākonga has returned and attendance is stabilised, a support plan is developed and confirmed in negotiation with the School, whānau / families (ākonga when needed) and AA will close the case.
- Case notes are updated in ASA at least once a week
- AA notes reflects visit to schools, conversations with professionals and any face to face or, other forms of contacts with whānau / family
- When there is a case that whānau / family are not engaging with the Service or School, AA will discuss the options with the school of the next layer of urgency, e.g. Notification to Oranga Tamariki
- Ask Police to do a wellbeing visit
- AA maintains ACES internal record-keeping and this includes
- Overdue cases
- School visits
- External meetings aligned to different cases
- Projects they are working on

Key Performance Indicators

KPI 1:

Akonga returns to a legal learning environment following an unjustified absence referral within 40 school days.

KPI 2:

No more than 10% of UA referrals are re-referred more than two times in one school year.

KPI 3:

All NEN cases open longer than six months must have a plan in place to re-engage the ākonga back into school or a learning environment. The plan must include options that result in a case closure within the following two months.

- a)
 Cases open longer than
 six months have a plan in
 place
- b)
 These plans are
 executed, resulting in
 NEN case closure within
 2 months

2023 Key Performance Indicators

KPI One Ākonga returned to a legal learning environment following Unjustified Absence (UA) referral within 40 School Days is at least 75%				
Number of UA cases opened		1,114		
% of cases closed within 40 school days		83%		
KPI Two No more that 10% UA referrals are referred more than 2 times in one school year				
Total number of students not referred 991				
1%				

KPI Three	Non Enrolled Cases Opened	Non Enrolled Cases Closed		
	738	646		

All Non-Enrolled cases open longer than 6 months must have a plan that confirms ākonga "return to education setting". The plan must include options that results in a case closure within the following two months.

Months Open	Number of Open NE Active Cases:
0 to 3	72
4 to 6	61
7 to 9	14
10 to 12	6
13+	18
Total	161

KPI 3:

All NEN cases open longer than six months must have a plan in place to re-engage the ākonga back into school or a learning environment. The plan must include options that result in a case closure within the following two months.

KPI 3A (up to 100%)

• 97%. KPI is met.

3% (1 / 38 cases no plan had started as status was OVERDUE at the time received by ACES and yet to start).

KPI 3 B (up to 75%)

24 / 30 (cases open at Mid-Term 2023 Report for 6 months or more are now closed).

• 80%. KPI is met.

Auckland City Attendance Data Overview 2021 - 2023

Referrals	2021	2022	2023	Grand Total
NEN	796	1298	1092	3186
Operation Attend	-	416	278	694
7 to 9	694	1097	1113	2904
Grand Total	1490	2811	2483	678 4

Hours attached to case

Year	Total Hours	Hours / Case
2021	6041 hrs	4.05hrs/case
2022	8095 hrs	3.37hrs/case
2023	7819 hrs	3.55hrs/case

Referrals (Based on Auckland City Local Boards:

Auckland City Boards	2021	2022	2023
AE	272	83	59
Albert-Eden	142	268	220
Great Barrier	2	1	1
Maungakiekie-Tamaki	405	980	832
Orakei	136	342	264
Puketapapa	128	225	180
Waiheke	9	18	26
Waitemata	137	223	203
Whau	95	251	272
Other	364	420	426
Grand Total	1490	2811	2483

ACES Attendance Service has kept its own Database since the Service started and from this information can gather information specific to:

- · School / kura
- Kākui Ako
- Principals' Cluster
- RTLB Cluster
- Auckland City Boards

If you would like information specific to your area you can contact your Attendance Advisor or, go directly to Irma Oberholzer who can extract this information.

Auckland City Boards	2021	2022	2023
Beginning of year Enrolment (NEN)	23	90	42
Behavioural Issues	13	9	14
Bullying	18	19	27
Condoned Unjustified Absences	181	399	315
Continuous lateness	13	4	7
Disengaged from learning	106	143	213
Drug or alcohol issues (family)	1	2	
Drug or alcohol issues (student)	2	1	
End of Schooling	4	24	22
Enrol not updated (NEN)	42	51	54
Epidemic (Measles)		3	
Extended Holiday	5	3	9
Family Budget Issues	9	13	10
Family transience – Housing Issues	127	95	59
Family transience – moved out AKL	192	334	303
Family transience – within AKL	24	43	44
Gang Involvement	5	7	2
Gone Overseas	77	172	205
Immigration/Visa /Document Issues	4	8	2
Inadequate transport system	1		1
Incorrectly allocated (NEN)	29	92	38
Issue with a peer	10	9	5
Issue with a teacher	3	10	13
School did not meet student needs	33	61	37
Mental Health (family)	5	14	8
Mental Health (student)	70	75	95
Natural disaster e.g. Floods		2	3
NEN – End of year	115	148	158
No money for Food, Stationary, Uniform	6	28	19
On–going medical condition	23	35	29
Peer pressure	1	5	4
Poor health (whānau / family member)	26	58	37
Poor health (student)	14	13	21
Pregnant	1	2	1
Responsibilities in the home	11	15	15
School Admin Error	6	15	10
Serious Misconduct	11	17	16
Special Needs	6	1	4
Struggling in Classroom	14	11	13
Student taken off the school roll (was a UA)	32	52	48
Tangi	12	12	20
Transport issues	12	18	27
Unstable home environment	85	111	121
Unwell (common illness)	83	154	95
In-school absence	6	1	3
Whānau Responsibilities	29	16	36

	2021		2022		2023	
Ethnicity	F	М	F	М	F	М
African	1	6	6	13	8	12
Chinese	15	18	43	44	36	28
Cook Island Māori	57	51	113	122	119	102
Fijian	3	8	10	13	6	7
Indian	20	24	34	30	42	24
Latin America	1	7	9	15	7	12
Māori	315	285	570	526	454	436
Middle Eastern	9	17	25	24	27	25
Niuean	27	33	46	51	48	32
Other	1		3	2	1	4
Other Asian	13	17	15	19	16	24
Other European	21	22	30	33	27	24
Pasifica	3	6	9	7	10	13
Pakeha	86	98	160	157	159	152
Samoan	66	71	139	157	158	126
Southeast Asian	8	12	10	13	22	19
Tongan	75	93	189	171	159	142
Unknown	-	1	2	1	-	2
Grand Total	721	769	1413	1398	1299	1184

Year Level	2021		2022		2023	
Year Level	F	М	F	М	F	М
0	1	3	9	6	4	9
1	41	57	79	64	69	71
2	48	47	109	103	88	61
3	32	38	83	77	88	75
4	32	41	85	85	63	67
5	33	49	75	90	52	67
6	46	47	112	107	75	82
7	44	52	95	102	88	72
8	99	109	209	220	147	170
9	79	75	165	132	155	130
10	117	108	168	195	234	208
11	102	114	146	161	164	134
12	38	25	56	43	57	21
13	9	4	22	13	15	17
Grand Total	721	769	1413	1398	1299	1184

The Attendance & Engagement Team and Managed Moves Programme Team

- 1. Lisa Chandler Team Leader and Managed
 Moves Co-ordinator
- 2. Malcolm Peak Managed Moves Co-ordinator
- 3. Rowena Aiono
- 4. Andrea Chauval
- 5. Samina Hassan
- 6. Samer Mistry
- 7. Mustafa Qureshi Youth Worker
- 8. Evander Muagututia (Tia) Youth Worker until June 2024.

Attendance and Engagement Overview

The Attendance and Engagement Strategy

The purpose of the roles is to support schools and kura to turn around irregular and moderate absence patterns before they become entrenched and persistent.

- · Person will be working across and / or within schools and / or kura
- Will provide support within schools and kura to analyse and identify patterns of attendance and can support the development of a plan towards setting in place consistent processes to manage attendance
- Will engage and support ākonga Māori and their whānau, Pasifika learners and aiga with the aim to reduce ākonga falling into chronically absent patterns of attendance
- Work beside key stakeholders within the community (e.g. Pasifika or Māori Services, Agencies and Community Groups) to have the "right conversations" (supported by data) to address the reasons and concerns of the barriers preventing attendance

Key Functions

Beside school / kura or a Kākui Ako

- Identify irregular and moderate absence within the specific communities of Auckland City.
- With data and information analysis from the findings, set in place the "right conversation".
- From findings, inform schools / kura and communities to consider what will be the effective options to turn irregular and moderate absence around.
- Support schools / kura or Kāhui Ako to put effective processes and systems in place.
- Establish effective connections to build sustainable relationships with schools / kura or Kāhui Ako, lwi and Hapu as well as Pasifika Community Leaders.

How will we do this?

Attendance Engagement Specialists

- Connect and negotiate a working relationship with school / kura or a Kākui Ako
- 2. Use data and information gathered to identify where attitudes, behaviours, practices, systems and processes are affecting engagement and attendance For example:
- Workload in a school / kura impacts on managing attendance
- School's Attendance Policy
- 3. From a school / kura or a Kākui Ako formulate the "right conversation" and possible "reporting tool" that is shared and used to guide for best practice
- 4. Consider a range of responses that effect change particularly for ākonga Māori and their whānau, Pasifika learners and aiga as well as other ethnic or religious learners and families
- 5. Supporting the implementation of effective processes and systems (a one school approach to managing attendance) within a school / Kura or Kāhui Ako and the school's community
- Hold "conversations" across different communities to share best practices and asking them how they can support lifting attendance
- 7. Collaboration with Māori, Iwi and Pasifika groups as well as Agencies that can support different levels of decision making needed to lift attendance and engagement
- 8. Connectedness and trust across communities is established and there are working partnerships promoting sustainable and effective models in place of working together

Key Objectives

#1:

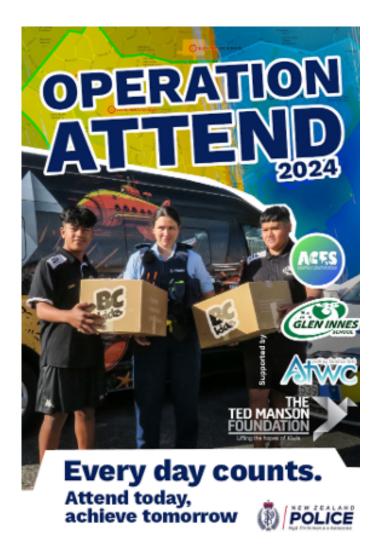
Working with schools and kura with ākonga from Years 1-12 who are irregularly or moderately absent from school

#2:

A facilitation function supporting universal and targeted attendance responses and tailor and support options for a school, kura or group and/or community

#3:

Supporting and connecting across the community to lift irregular school attendance Give priority through immediate action to the key requirements of the MoE Attendance Service
Agreement 2023 – 2025



Operation Attend Project

Attendance and Engagement Team with Attendance Advisors will continue with the Operation Attend Project and future planning includes bringing this model to other areas of Auckland City.

The model is a partnership between the Schools, ACES, ATWC and driven by the Police and includes wellbeing visits to whānau/families that the schools have referred to the Operation. The next month after Operation Attend the professionals come together and pack goods (e.g. food, basic medical needs, stationary specific to the home) and this is delivered by the group.

To set this up in other areas will involve working with the local Police in the area as well as accessing's the community connection and Schools.

- Watch this Space for your Area.

Managed Moves Programme Model

Managed Moves model is setting in place an Education and Support Plan with the Right People and central to this plan will be ākonga and whānau / families.

The plan can include ākonga staying within the enrolling school or moving with a transition plan to a new educational destination with the resources of a **Team** in place who ākonga and their whānau / family have agreed upon.





Got to next page to see Managed Moves Outcomes



Outcomes



Ākonga remains (or returns) to an education destination aligned to their personal needs and aspirations.

Ākonga Referred to Managed Moves

Ākonga Referred to Managed Moves

- Ākonga who are not responding to strategies the school has implemented to support engagement
 - **E.g.** Attendance Service and has not worked
- Ākonga has several Agencies / Services attached and can be:
 - In a School
 - Non-Enrolled
 - Several stand downs and further incidents may likely lead to a suspension

ACES
Managed Moves

- Receives Request for Support
- Maintains a
 Database of
 confirmed cases to
 collect valuable
 data
- Monitors cases using internal structures in place
- Monitor Youth Worker Caseloads
- Attends Managed Moves Action Group Meetings
- Reports to the MoE mid-year and annually
- Reports to ACES Advisory Group

Managed Moves Co-ordinator & Youth Worker

- Gathers Information from Request for Support and based on information and feedback will open case
- Meets with Whānau / ākonga to listen to their concerns and complete Whānau Consent Form (if not completed)
- Sits with enrolling School to hear their concerns and identified what has worked (or not)
- Connects with professionals attached (or yet to be attached)
- Sets in place a Whānau / Ākonga Managed Moves Meeting with key people and from this the Education and Support plan is created with actions
- Connects with key people on their tasks within the Education and Support and based on outcomes being met (or not) adjusts the plan
- Maintains ongoing relationships with ākonga and whānau / family for their feedback on the plan
- Co-ordinates review meetings and based on feedback and data (e.g. ākonga engagement) will close case or, update Education and Support Plan

Role of The Action Group

- 1. Representation (within an area) can include:
- ACES Managed Moves
- SW Oranga Tamariki C+P and/or Y|
- Health
- MoE Support and Engagement
- Police e.g. Youth Aid
- Health
- School (ākonga enrolling school)
- 2. Schools, Agencies and Services will follow their Organisations' rules for sharing of information E.g. Share information and can confirm to be (or not) included in the
- 3. Action Group meets every two weeks with the YCT meeting group Meeting is case specific and actions are confirmed to strengthen ākonga Education and Support Plan
- 4. Meeting discussion covers key concerns (education, health, wellbeing & behaviour)

The ACES / Mount Albert Grammar School ADVISORY GROUP

As part of the MoE Agreements ACES delivers an Advisory Group which is a requirement to support and strengthen the strategic direction of ACES. The Advisory Group is in place with the following Agreements.

- 1. Alternative Education
- 2. Attendance Service with Managed Moves Programme

The functions of the group is to:

- 1. Provide feedback on delivery of agreements
- 2. Provide strategic advice
- 3. Provide professional guidance (from the respective areas) to strengthen the Managed Moves Model
- 4. Consider potential projects and can include setting in place terms of reference
- 5. Maintain oversight of emerging risks and current issues in Auckland City
- 6. Agree on communications' strategies needed for major stakeholders
- 7. Advocacy

ADVISORY GROUP	DESTINATION
Pat Drumm	Headmaster, Mount Albert Grammar School
Corey Todd	DP, Mount Albert Grammar School holds the AE Portfolio
Ivan Davis	Principal, Western Springs College
Susan Fuiavailili	Nurse Lead I School Based Health Team I Community Nurse Prescriber
Michael Mains	Principal, Blockhouse Bay Intermediate
Robyn Curry	Principal, Te Papapa School
Jenny Janif	Kaitohutohu Matua Senior Advisor (migrant / refugee)
Maryanne O'Hare	MoE Manager, Integrated Services (C&E)
Chris Herlihy	Principal, Glen Taylor
Nick Couglan or, Emma Beale	Principal, One Hill College AP One Tree Hill College
Adam King	Sgt, Youth Engagement
Neil Penfold	DP, Selwyn College

The Challenges (the concerns and needs)

- ASA
 - Cannot produce reports (internal systems need to be used to create information).
 - AA cannot send case notes and must email notes or meet with the school.
 - The actual document (case notes on ASA) is up to 5 pages or more and the School has to skip the pages before they can read the case notes.
- Temporary or emergency housing and the challenges this creates enrolling in the local zone school.
- New Housing complexes and the difficulties to get inside and connect with whānau / family
- Cost of living in Auckland and this includes the "start-up cost enrolling into a school".
- Lack of transport options for whānau / families.
- Health (mental wellness) in the home with whānau members or, ākonga.
- Disengaged Youth (either needing to find employment to support the household or, unable to see a future).
- Referrals received from other areas and upon receiving them, the time ākonga has had out of school (longest time is 2 years).
- Capacity of Agencies or Services responding to referrals from the Service.
- Lack of coordination between Agencies and Service with some cases and people within the group working in isolation or not allowing information to be shared that could resolve a case.
- Increased challenge connecting with some whānau / families and includes no responses to cold-calls, calling and texting, even when left with the ACES 0800 number.
- Search Engines Attendance Service can access e.g. MSD who can confirm addresses for some cases are often out-of-date especially when it comes to whānau / family living in temporary arrangements.

Kia tāea = Kia akoranga = Kia angitū. He waka eke noa tātou.

Arrive / Attend = Learning = Success / Opportunity.

We are all in this together.



Web: www.aces.school.nz