

# How to support all children to be in school all the time

School refusal/anxiety and its wider effects

**Date: 1st May - Time: 4.30-6.30**

**Venue: Unity Schools Partnership offices, Haverhill, CB9 7YD**

*A solution-focused workshop for governors, practitioners and parents to explore how to help all children to feel fine in school*

This workshop will be supported by PACT, Not Fine in School, SENDIASS, Unity Schools Partnership SEND lead, Unity Schools Partnership Lead for Wellbeing of Children in Care/psychotherapist, EP Service, CISS, Educational Welfare Service

## Key Issues

- PACT/Not Fine in School survey reported just 8.5% parents felt they had received excellent support from schools over poor attendance due to anxiety; 41% parents felt they had received little or no support
- Suffolk issues five times the national average of penalty notices
- Rising numbers of Suffolk children currently de-registered

## Target audience

*Governors; School staff responsible for attendance, SEND and pastoral care; parents - it is requested that all participating schools invite at least one parent to attend.*

## Pre-meeting

*Participants asked to complete a what's going well/what could be better survey which will be summarised at the start of the meeting - forms to be sent following requests for places.*

## Format of meeting

- Brief revisiting of stats to highlight issues
- Objectives of workshop
  - > To identify the most effective practice to date and how this could be embedded across a wider range of schools
  - > To identify what changes could make greatest difference in supporting children and young people suffering from school anxiety to attend school
  - > To identify what changes could improve communication with and support for parents of children who are suffering from school anxiety
  - > Future development - action research using Unity Research Process, with aim to disseminate once evaluated
  - > To learn more about support available from Educational Psychology Service and CISS