

Who are The Education Welfare Team?

The Education Welfare Team (EWT) is part of Inclusion section within the Department for Children, Young People, Education and Skills. The EWT consists of Education Welfare Officers (EWOs) based in the States 11-16 schools and centrally based allocated to primary schools and colleges.

Our role is to support children, young people and families alongside a broad range of agencies both statutory and voluntary to promote good attendance and punctuality.

What does an Education Welfare Officer do?

Schools will intervene if your child's attendance and/or punctuality becomes a cause for concern, however if the support from school does not improve the situation, a request for the involvement of an EWO will be made.

The EWO will contact you and arrange to meet with you, either at home or at school, to identify and discuss these concerns. Your child will be given the opportunity to contribute to any attendance plans and agreed actions appropriate to their age.

For more information, the Education Welfare Team can be contacted as follows:

Education Welfare Team
Inclusion
Children, Young People, Education and Skills
PO Box 142, Highlands Campus
St Saviour, JE4 8QJ

01534 449449
Email: inclusion@gov.je

What can you do to help your child?

- Ensure your child arrives at school on time every day as this encourages a positive and healthy approach to learning
- If your child is unable to attend school, let the school know on the first day of absence
- If you suspect your child is having difficulties attending school, you should contact the school
- Ensure that your child has the appropriate equipment in preparation for learning. For example, school uniform, lunch, and lesson equipment



The Education Welfare Team



What does the Law say?

The Education (Jersey) Law 1999 states:

“Parents have a duty to ensure that children of compulsory school age receive full-time education appropriate to the child’s age, ability and aptitude, and any special educational needs that the child may have, either by regular attendance at a school at which the child is a pupil or otherwise”.

Receiving a full-time education will give your child the best possible start in life. Research shows that children who do not attend regularly are vulnerable to less positive outcomes generally and may be drawn into criminal or anti-social behaviour. Therefore, attending school on time every day is essential if children and young people are to make the most of the opportunities available to them.

How might an Education Welfare Officer work with your child?

EWOs will gather information about your child in several ways. This may include:

- Consulting with school to gain background information
- Discussing your child with other professionals, if appropriate, and with your permission
- Carrying out assessments
- Talking with your child about any concerns they may have



Every day counts and every lesson matters

Should the EWO consider, at any point, that as a parent/carer you are unable or unwilling to support your child’s education, a referral will be made to the Attendance Panel.

This is a formal process and the outcomes can consist of the following;

- A review period for parents/carers and pupil to evidence significant improvements. This will sit within an attendance plan and may include the involvement of further professionals.
- An enquiry to the Children and Families Hub
- A referral to the relevant Parish Hall with a view to prosecution
- Application to the court for an Education Supervision Order

