

New Attendance Officer Role

Need to know information for Principals and schools

Context

- Since 2021 sector leadership, communities, iwi, hapū and Te Mahau takiwā have worked together to develop regional strategies and action plans to support attendance and engagement. These new roles will be working to contribute to a range of responses and identified actions.
- The Budget 2023 Attendance Turnaround package includes 82 FTE to support the introduction of attendance officer roles.

Role

- Attendance officers are employed by current Attendance Service providers.
- They support schools, kura and communities to identify and address moderate and irregular attendance patterns for ākonga in years 1 to 12.
- They utilise available data and information from a range of sources to understand the drivers of absence across the community and share a range of effective responses.
- While this is not a case management role, on occasion they may support ākonga who are moderately or irregularly absent and their families where it is agreed that this is the most effective use of the limited attendance officer resource available.
- Attendance officers will work across schools and kura, in a similar way to the Attendance Service.
- Some Attendance Service providers or communities may choose a different name for this role, that best suits them.
- From the start of Term 2, attendance officers have begun to be employed.
- More information, including the role description can be found here:
<https://www.education.govt.nz/our-work/overall-strategies-and-policies/attendance-and-engagement-strategy/new-attendance-officers/>