

Kirsty Williams AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Cabinet Secretary for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-807
Ein cyf/Our ref KW/02577/18

David John Rowlands AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
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SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales

21st November 2018

Dear David,

P-05-807 Review and change the guidance for attendance awards in Welsh schools

Thank you for your letter of 21 June requesting an update on developments relating to the above petition; I understand your Committee Clerk chased for a response on 14 November. I am very sorry for the delay in responding to you which unfortunately is due to an administrative oversight.

My officials are continuing to undertake an extensive review of school attendance policy in Wales. This has included working with key stakeholders to understand the practical implications and challenges of the existing arrangements and to identify what changes are required to ensure arrangements continue to provide effective, fair and consistent support to parents, learners, schools and local authorities. Our initial but extensive stakeholder engagement work has now completed and my officials are using the evidence and feedback to revise the school attendance framework. The intention is to publish the revised framework for public consultation next year.

The petitioner's suggestion that attendance registers should include scope for absences to be recorded as being related to a chronic health condition is one of the points being considered as part of the review.

I hope this information is of help.

Yours sincerely

Kirsty Williams AC/AM
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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.