Inclusion in Gloucestershire

Gloucestershire County Council

October 2026

'Right support at the right time'



Attendance, inclusion and the move to EYES

What is changing, what stays the same, and how schools will be involved

SCHOOL NETWORK UPDATE

Presented by Cilla James
Strategic Lead for Access and Education

10 November 2026



Attendance sits within inclusion

A stronger, more joined-up offer across the Education Directorate

What is changing

Education Inclusion Services now sits within a wider directorate structure, with services working more closely across inclusion.

What is not changing

Schools will continue to receive attendance support. Routes into support may change, but the commitment remains.

Why this matters

Attendance is part of inclusion. A joined-up model should make support easier to understand and connect.

Our direction

Build stronger links between attendance, early intervention, community support and wider education services.

Core message: the structure is changing so services can work together more effectively, not to reduce support.



Inclusion Support from GCC:

School Inclusion and Improvement Service

- **School Inclusion Service**
- STEPS (EPS & ATS)
- School Improvement Service
- GHES

Children and Young People's Service

- **Elective Home Education (EHE), Child Missing Education (CME), and Section 19 Team**
- **Legal Attendance Team**
- In-Year Admissions & Fair Access Team
- EHCP Service

Specialist Commissioning

- **Specialist Commissioning – Alternative Provision**

Early Intervention & Community Service

- *Launched 2nd November – further details later today*

Lisa Meggs
Strategic Lead for School Inclusion

Vikki Burt
Inclusion Lead And Line Manager

Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, plus oversights

System and school level inclusion

Senior Inclusion Officer

Inclusion Officers

Tracey Denny
Inclusion Lead And Line Manager

Gloucester and Forest, plus oversights

System and school level inclusion

Senior Inclusion Officer

Inclusion Officers

Becky Atkins
Inclusion Lead And Line Manager

Stroud and Cotswold, plus oversights

System and school level inclusion

Senior Inclusion Officer

Inclusion Officers

Cilla James
Strategic Lead for Accessing Education

Stacey Bayliss
Senior Elective Home Education Officer

Fliss Falconer
Senior Legal Attendance Officer

Josh Clayton
Senior Section 19 and Attendance Officer

EHE Officers

Legal Support Officers

S19 & Attendance Officers

Attendance in the LA:

Cilla James
Joint LA Strategic Lead for Attendance

Strategic and operational oversight for:
Legal attendance
S19
CME
LA Attendance Strategy
Workstream Lead for Health

Becky Atkins
Joint LA Strategic Lead for Attendance

Strategic and operational oversight for:
Whole-school attendance
Targeted Support Meetings
PTTT and 10-day absence

Andrea Jordan
Service Lead within the Early Intervention & Community Team

Strategic and operational oversight for:
Child-level and family-level attendance support
Workstream Lead for Multi-agency working

Proposed network model for 2027

Moving from a standalone attendance network towards locality-based inclusion meetings

1

LOCALITY-BASED

Meetings organised around local areas, helping schools connect with nearby services and partners.

2

PRIMARY + SECONDARY

Bring phases together to share patterns, transitions, approaches and practical solutions.

3

INCLUSION FOCUS

Broaden the conversation beyond attendance while keeping attendance central to inclusion.

Current network

Jointly hosted locality inclusion model

This is a proposal. Schools' feedback will shape the final design, including how specialist and independent settings are best supported.

Help us design what comes next

Breakout discussion and Microsoft Forms consultation

1. What would be the benefits of bringing primary and secondary schools together?
2. What disadvantages or practical barriers should we address?
3. Who do schools want to hear from at future inclusion meetings?
4. Which local services, partners or effective practice should be shared?

Please capture your group's key points in a Word document, then paste them into the main meeting chat.

What the move to EYES will mean for schools

A heads-up now, with detailed guidance and training to follow nearer implementation

Elective Home Education

A new route for schools to notify or submit information relating to deregistration for home education.

Section 19

Changes to how Section 19 forms and requests are submitted.

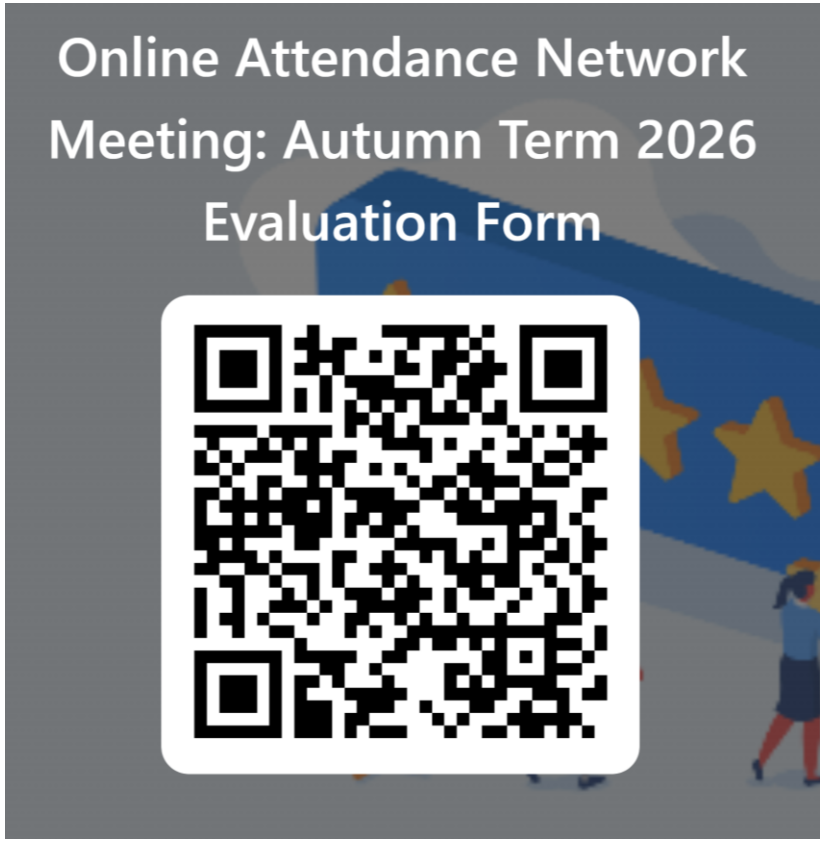
Legal attendance

New portal-based routes for Notice to Improve and penalty notice requests as the current MRI arrangement ends.

Under review: reducing repeated information requests at different points in the legal attendance process, in discussion with Legal Services.

School support

Incoming March/April 2027



Have you any questions that you would like answered?

Online Attendance Network Meeting: Autumn Term 2026 Evaluation Form – Fill out form