

**Derbyshire
County Council**

**Children and Younger
Adults Department**

Attendance Matters

Eckington and Dronfield
MAT

Aims of the session

- Improve communication with school around school attendance.
- Give some clarity of systems and process.
- Look at expectations and responsibilities from both organisations.
- Give a clearer message to family and reinforce the consistent sanctions and methods of working.



Attendance Matters

Points of Contact for attendance

Mel Hagues
MAT Manger

Lorraine Green
Senior Practitioner

Dawn Priestley
Education Welfare
Lead

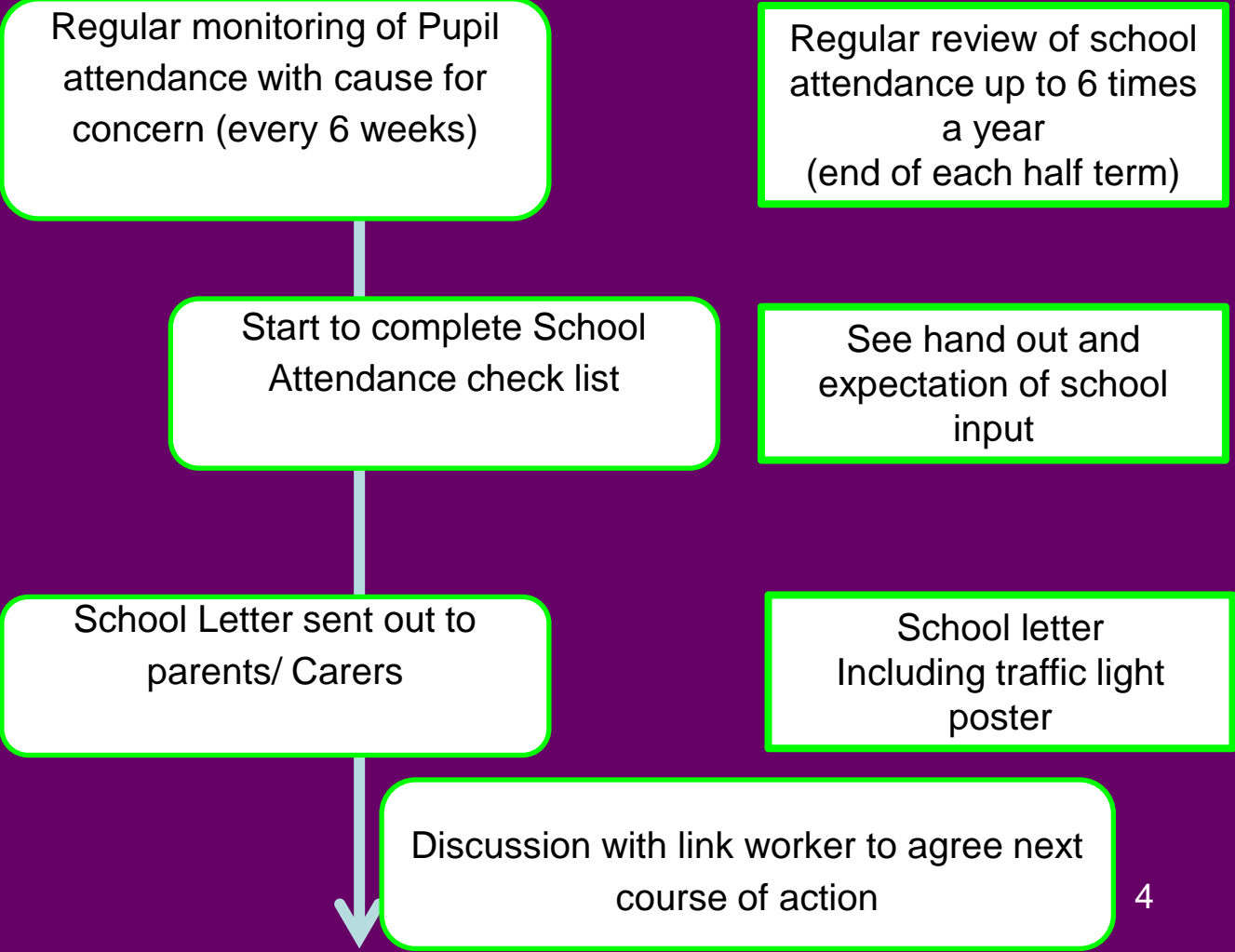
Jonathan Flower
Education Welfare
Lead

Allocated School Link workers

All above workers are based at The Grange,
Eckington 01629 537169

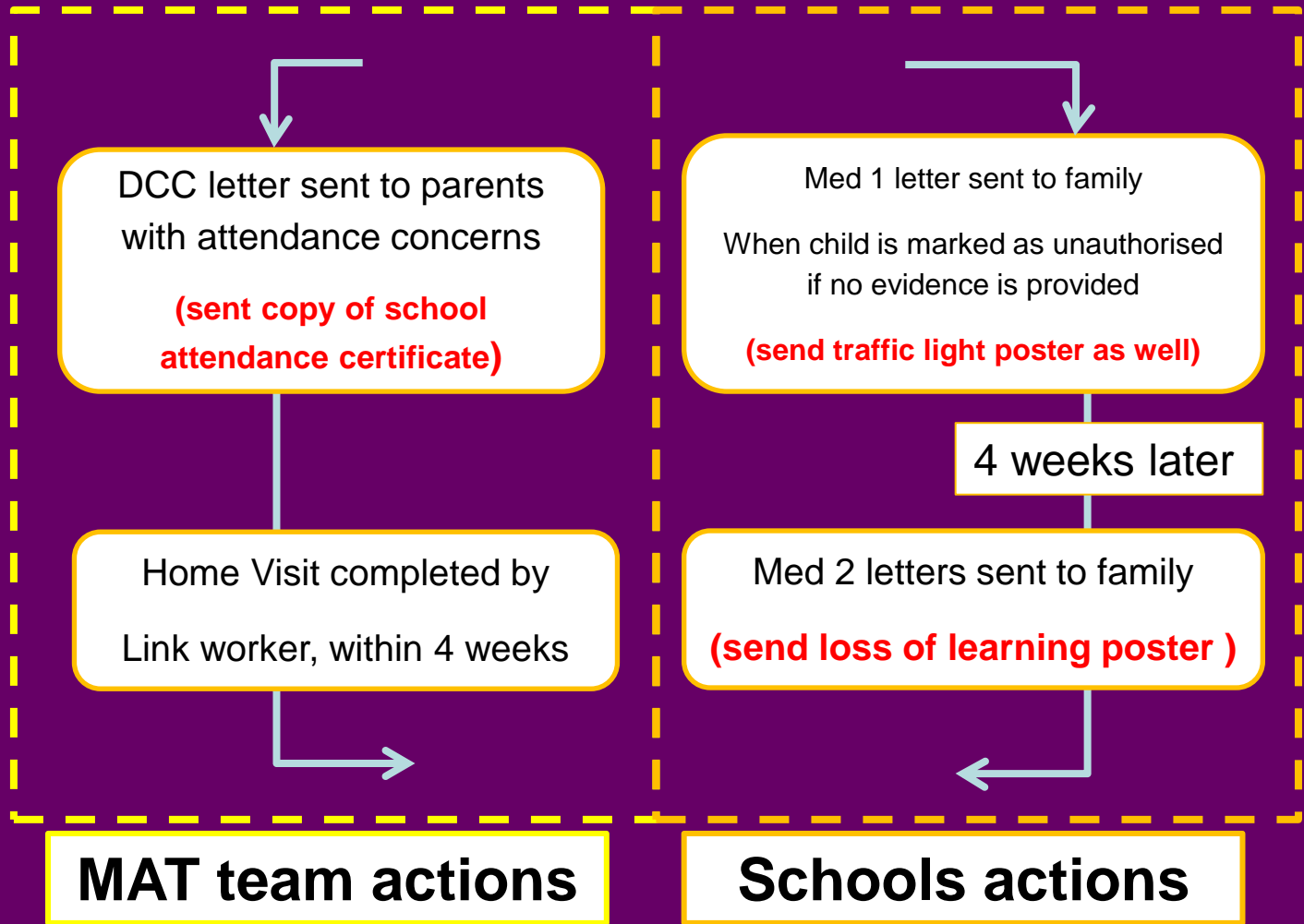


System of working



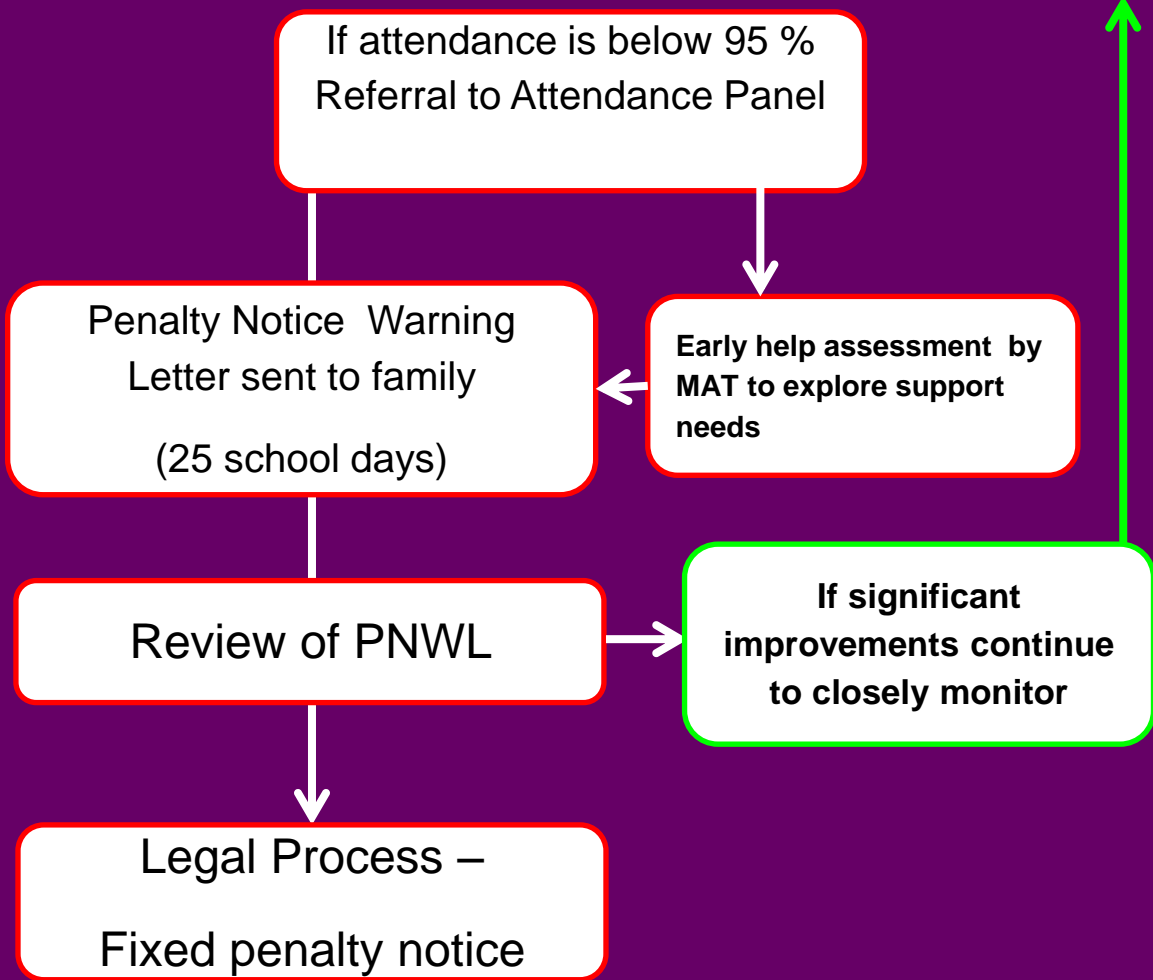


Systems of working





System of Working



MAT Home Visit

- Look at the concern around school attendance using the stronger families safer children model.
- Compile an action plan to support the child and family to improve the school attendance.
- Follow up with relevant professionals to ensure most effective outcome for the young people and families.



Criteria for attendance Panel

- Two consecutive weeks of unauthorised absence.
- Or
- Secondary schools; 10 session of unauthorised absences in a 5 week periods.
- Primary schools; 5 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 5 week period where no medical evidence has been received.
- Persistent absence threshold (95%) met within the last 12 months and where there is some current unauthorised absence.
- All letters have been sent by MAT and school and attendance still remains a concern, (however absence needs to be unauthorised).



Attendance Panels

- Attendance Panel will consist of;
- Education Welfare lead
- Senior Representative from relevant school
- Family and young person

- In some cases the following may also attend;
- School Governor
- Police
- Other authorised person



Derbyshire's position on fining for terms time holiday

Schools should continue to consider requests for holiday absence in accordance with regulations (exceptional circumstances only) and submit all requests for the issue of penalty notices to the LA in the normal way.

- Where overall attendance is above 94% over the previous 12 months, calculated from the week after the holiday absence, penalty notices will not be issued.
-
- In such cases, parents will be sent a letter from the local authority advising that their child's record will show unauthorised absence and any future unauthorised leave may result in the issue of a penalty notice.
- Where overall attendance is at or below 94% penalty notices will be issued. Senior Officers believe that failure to continue to support schools and provide a consistent message on the importance of attendance may impact on the outcomes for children attending Derbyshire schools.



Advice on attendance policy

- It would be helpful if your policy in respect of leave in term-time is published on the school's website. The minimum information required is as follows:
 - In September 2013 the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 came into force. These regulations make it clear that Head teachers should not grant approval for any leave of absence during term-time, including holidays, unless there are exceptional circumstances.
 - Any requests should be on an official school absence request form and handed into the school office for consideration prior to any holiday/leave arrangements being made.
 - You may be issued with a Penalty Notice should leave be taken which is not authorised.



Feedback

Q & A