

21/10/25

Final Report: School Morning Attendance Shuttle

Overview:

The Taieri Morning Attendance Shuttle was implemented to promote regular attendance through structured routines, peer interaction, adult engagement, role modelling, and supportive environments. The programme aimed to develop positive habits and foster a sense of community among students during the morning hours. The attendance shuttle now caters for up to 24 children, from 3 schools daily. This has increased from 8-13 children. The vast majority of those are from financially challenged families that live beyond a kilometer to school. Although demand has increased for the service, we also have several families and children that have created positive routines and now bike, scooter or walk to school of their own volition.

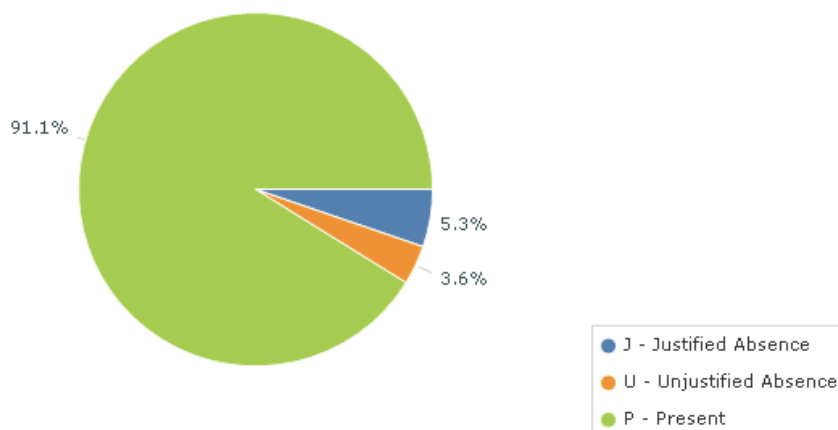
Benefits and Outcomes:

- **Enhanced Morning Routines:** Children have developed more consistent and positive morning routines, setting them up for a successful school day.
- **Peer Relationships:** The shuttle provided opportunities for children to interact and build camaraderie, strengthening peer relationships.
- **Adult Conversation and Support:** Engagement with teachers and staff during the shuttle created a supportive environment, allowing children to share concerns and receive encouragement.
- **Role Modelling:** Adults serving as role models demonstrated punctuality, responsibility, and positive social behaviors, influencing children's attitudes toward attendance.

Attendance Impact:

While the programme has demonstrated numerous benefits in terms of student engagement and well-being, the overall increase in attendance percentages has been limited as far as bettering our interim success. This is largely attributed to the prevalence of illnesses during Term Three, which naturally affected student presence.

We have, however, been able to sustain our attendance percentage to over 90% and can boast only 3.6% of pupils, on average, identifying as unjustified absences.



Conclusion:

Despite the challenges posed by seasonal illnesses, anecdotal evidence suggests that the Morning Attendance Shuttle has been extremely successful in creating a positive mornings atmosphere, supporting children's social and emotional development, and establishing healthy routines. Continued efforts and adjustments will aim to improve attendance rates further while maintaining the program's positive impact.

Recommendations:

- Continue with the morning routine support and peer engagement activities.
- Develop additional strategies to mitigate sickness-related attendance drops.
- Explore ways to involve families further to reinforce attendance importance.

Summary:

The shuttle programme has been a valuable addition to our school community, fostering a supportive and engaging start to each day for our students. We will look for ways to refine and expand this initiative in future if we can find further funding. If we can't sustain the service, we expect that we have created sustained attendance patterns for numerous pupils as far as their morning routine and their will to attend school. Which is the REAL goal in that we scaffold a routine and habit of daily attendance.

Ngā mihi



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