



1. OUTLINE

Successful learning outcomes are more likely to be achieved where there is a strong record of attendance in learning. Accordingly, intervention in instances of poor attendance, with the intention of securing improved attendance, may be a key factor in maximising the potential for successful completion of learning outcomes. This practice standard sets out the approach to be taken in recording and monitoring attendance and the actions to be taken in the event of poor attendance.

2. COMPLETION OF REGISTERS

3.1 Tutors will complete attendance registers each week and ensure that admin staff have access to them.

- On-site registers will be retained in Reception.
- Outreach courses to be returned at each half term but un-notified absences reported to admin for follow up if needed.
- Online registers to be emailed to Admin at the end of each course.

3.2 Tutors should use the following codes:

/	= present
O	= not present (and not previously notified or authorised)
K	= known absence (notified and authorised)
T	= transferred to another course
WD	= Left this course – no achievement
C	= completed early
—	= late starter (mark for dates before starting)

3.3 Administrators will check each course register on a weekly basis and inform the Lead Tutor of absences of 3 weeks or more for Community courses, and each week for qualification courses. Discrepancies between the paper register and the MIS system will be investigated and attendance recorded each half term.

3. FOLLOW UP ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN WITH ABSENTEES

3.1 Notified/Authorised absences should be noted on the register and reasons added to absence record on the reverse, by whoever gets the message (Admin or Tutor). If the tutor is notified after the class by email, the message should be forwarded straight to: adultlearning@rutland.gov.uk

- 3.2 Unauthorised absences, marked as 0, will be followed up by the admin team as a welfare check.
- 3.3 Absentees 'not notified' for 3 weeks or more may lose their place on the course, without refund, unless their circumstances are covered under the Refunds Policy.
- 4.4 Tutors will follow up each absence with appropriate support and teaching materials to allow the learner to stay on target for their learning outcomes. These may be delivered to the learner via post, email or online learning platform as appropriate.

4. MONITORING

4.1 Attendance and completion of registers will be monitored in the following ways:

- Registers checked weekly by admin
- Reconciled with MIS system half termly
- MIS based registers updated half termly
- Registers will be reviewed as part of the audit of course files

5. ACTIONS IN THE EVENT OF WITHDRAWALS

- 5.1 Tutors or administrative staff (as appropriate) to notify learner-informed withdrawals to the Lead Tutor.
- 5.2 Lead Tutor to make decisions on absence or behaviour-related withdrawals.

6. ACTIONS IN THE EVENT OF UNSATISFACTORY ATTENDANCE

- 6.1 Where intervention is triggered, either as a result of 3 consecutive un-notified absences or where cumulative attendance is <80% for qualification courses, contact will be made with the learner, by the lead tutor for the sub-contractor, in accordance with the Learning Agreement.
- 6.2 Depending on the circumstances thereby established, the following outcomes may apply:
- Learner provides credible reasons for absences and is permitted to continue, with a verbal commitment to improved attendance
 - Learner cannot provide appropriate reasons for absence but wishes to continue and, for qualifications, signs a declaration to the effect that attendance will improve by a set date, with automatic removal from course if this is not achieved and a charge for any booked examinations that are not attended.
 - Learner cannot provide appropriate reasons for absence or sufficient indication of intention to improve commitment and attendance. Learner is removed from course.
- 6.3 Where learners are removed from courses for reasons of poor attendance, any course fees are non-refundable as set out in the learner agreement.

Review History

Date	Reason for Review	Next Scheduled Review
July 2013	V1.0 produced	July 2014
December 2013	Reformat to standardised RALS policy style	July 2014
Sep 14	Annual Review	Aug 16
Aug 16	Review	Aug 18
Apr 18	Review for GDPR	Aug 20
March 20	Review and amends	Aug 22
Aug 22	2 year review	Aug 24
Aug 23	End of contact with SC	Aug 24

Practice Standard Owner: Lead Community Tutor and QA