

Absence Reporting

The Forum noted at their meeting in September that there was a significant level of absence reported under a category 'Details not provided' and as a consequence the monitoring of absence by reason was not meaningful. Historically schools have been able to report the reason for absence in a 'free flow' format and this flexibility has been recognised as another factor contributing to the difficulties in establishing accurate reason coding.

To address this, the Corporate Council has established a list of 15 wider but clear reasons for absence and a letter to schools explaining these reasons will go out before Easter. Schools will be asked to use these reasons only when reporting absence and, in addition, they will be reminded to always give a reason to aid accurate monitoring.

The list will include

- Back problems
- Other musculo-skeletal problems
- Chest/respiratory
- Eye/Ear/Nose/Mouth/Dental
- Genito/Urinary
- Heart/Blood Pressure/Circulation
- Infection
- Neurological
- Pregnancy related
- Stomach/Liver/Kidney/digestion
- Stress/Depression/Mental Health/Fatigue
- Affected area not known
- Probable/Possible pandemic flu
- Confirmed pandemic flu