

# Attendance Strategies

The strategies highlighted in **Purple** (Technical-Above the **Green** Line) are mandated by law, and the ones highlighted in **Pink** (Relational-Below the **Green** Line) are Best Practices.

School staff can support students with attendance issues in several ways, including:

- **Building relationships:** Create a culture where teachers and staff develop relationships with students. **Greet students and families personally, learn about the family, and ask about absences. Don't make assumptions!** It's also important to build relationships with colleagues and community members.
- **Monitoring attendance:** Work with the Coordinated Care or Student Success team to monitor when students are missing too many days. Follow up with students who need to improve their attendance.
  - **Providing reports:** Provide regular attendance reports to staff and families with high absentee rates. **Help students monitor attendance via StudentVue or other student-facing platforms.**
- **Communicating with parents and caregivers:** Contact parents/caregivers early, even before parent-teacher conferences.
- **Addressing root causes:** Try to identify the root causes/barriers of absences.
- **Prioritizing mental and physical health:** Consider having a school social worker, school nurse, and counselor, or partnering to address health needs.
  - If students are already connected with a provider, consider getting a Release of Information (ROI) to speak with that provider.
- **Offering interventions:** Consider individualized student success plans; attendance strategies in IEPs; **family/home visits**; mentors; tutoring; clubs/groups; restorative alternatives to discipline; and referrals to community-based organizations. For students who are missing the most school, consider Tier 3 interventions, which may involve other agencies such as health, housing, and social services.
- **Connect their education to their life goals:** Make the curriculum relevant to students' lives, and connect it to real-world scenarios.