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Not applicable

Delivering an attendance mentor programme offering targeted support to persistently absent pupils, and families where necessary, to improve attendance.

Department for Education

F14: Notice for changes or additional information

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-013341

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-032588

Published 18 May 2022, 11:53am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Department for Education

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Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Delivering an attendance mentor programme offering targeted support to persistently absent pupils, and families where necessary, to improve attendance.

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80000000 - Education and training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Regular attendance at school is vital for children's education, wellbeing, and long-term development. The Secretary of State for Education, Nadhim Zahawi, has made clear that excellent attendance is a priority to ensure that all children can catch up on lost learning caused by the pandemic.

As announced in the Levelling Up White Paper, the department is planning a new attendance pilot in a group of Education Improvement Areas where there is a clear demographic need to improve persistent and severe absence rates.

Persistent and Severe absence are a concern across the education sector, raised in publications by, for example, the Centre for Social Justice and the Children's Commissioner. Mentoring to improve attendance has been suggested as a potential solution to this issue.

We are looking for a contractor that will recruit and train mentors to provide targeted 1 – 1 support with an identified pupil or their family to overcome barriers to attendance. This relationship will need to be reactive to the individuals needs with the overall end goal to improve attendance.

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.6) Original notice reference

Notice number: [2022/S 000-007918](#)

Section VII. Changes

VII.1.2) Text to be corrected in the original notice

Section number

1.5

Instead of

Text

5000000

Read

Text

2450000

Section number

2.4

Instead of

Text

This contract is to deliver an attendance support offer, initially for one year with the intention to extend to three years (total). The support offer will start in one identified priority Education Improvement Area (EIA) in the first year and aim to support 500-1000 pupils, with the option to scale up to multiple areas nationally and support larger volumes of pupils in years two and three. More information on EIA's can be found in the Governments Levelling Up white paper [here](#).

We need a supplier to support vulnerable children and families in each of the identified areas to improve attendance. Through this work we aim to enhance capacity for early help/intervention, by working with pupils who are persistently absent and focusing particularly on those pupils who are, or are at risk of being, severely absent (missing with