

# Improving Primary School attendance in Brinnington, Stockport

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# CONTEXT AND RATIONALE FOR CHANGE

## Disparity in health outcomes between different neighbourhoods of Stockport 2020-2022

Neighbourhood	Average Life Expectancy (years)		Average Healthy Life Expectancy (years)		% of life spent in “not good health”	
	MEN	WOMEN	MEN	WOMEN	MEN	WOMEN
Stockport Central (incl. Brinnington)	75.4	79.4	58.9	59.9	22.0%	24.5%
Bramhall & Cheadle Hulme South	82.9	86.7	71.6	73.6	13.6%	15.2%

(Data from “Healthy Life Expectancy in Stockport: Report of the Director of Public Health”, Health & Wellbeing Board, January 2024)

**Improved health equity across Stockport**

**Improved long-term opportunities (social, economic, employment, housing)**

**Improved educational outcomes (cognitive, emotional, social)**

**Improved primary school attendance in Brinnington**

Dräger, J., Klein, M., & Sosu, E. (2023). *The long-term consequences of early school absences for educational attainment and labour market outcomes.*

World Health Organization Europe. (2015). *Health 2020: Education and Health through the Life-course.*

Virginia Commonwealth University Center on Society and Health. (2015). *Why Education Matters to Health: Exploring the Causes.*

**Improved educational outcomes (cognitive, emotional, social)**

Patel, R., Kay, J., Blausten, H., Madgwick, H., & Stevenson, J. (2022). *Attendance Interventions: Rapid Evidence Assessment.*

*Why is school attendance so important and what are the risks of missing a day? – The Education Hub.* (2023)

ImpactEd Evaluation. (2024). *Understanding Attendance: Findings on the drivers of pupil absence from over 30,000 young people in England.*

UNICEF Office of Research. (2018). *An Unfair Start: Inequality in Children’s Education in Rich Countries - Innocenti Report Card 15*

# LOGIC MODEL

## INPUTS

- Engagement with stakeholders across primary care, council, education, VCSE
- Time/space for meetings
- Generation of questionnaires for parents and children to explore local insights
- Liaison with Primary Care staff for changing GP appointment system
- Creation of template in Practice computer system (EMIS) to generate “Back to school” tokens



## ACTIVITIES

See next slide



## OUTPUTS

- Fewer GP appointments for children 2-11yrs within nursery/school hours
- More discussion of attendance during Primary Care consultations
- Primary Care advising specifically when appropriate to return to school
- Improved attendance of young children in Brinnington at nursery
- Improved perception of value of routine and school engagement in families



## OUTCOMES

- Improved attendance at primary schools in Brinnington



## SHORT-TERM IMPACTS

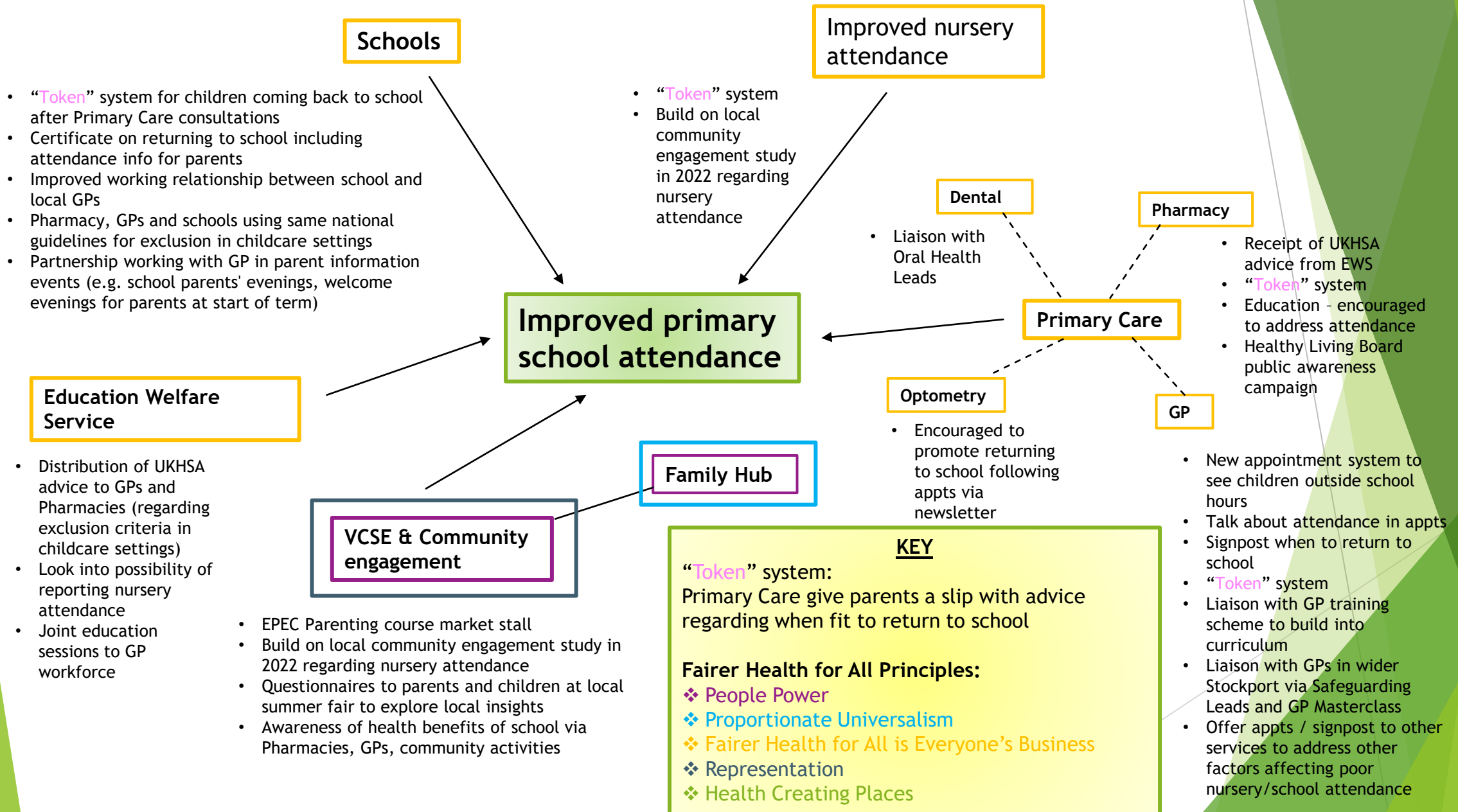
- Improved attendance at local secondary schools
- Improved educational and developmental achievements on leaving school
- Greater social engagement and reduced school anxiety



## LONG-TERM IMPACTS

- Improved socio-economic circumstances in Brinnington residents
- Improved healthy life expectancy in Brinnington residents
- Reduced health inequity within Stockport

# Activities to improve primary school attendance



# LOGIC MODEL ASSUMPTIONS

## Assumptions:

- New appointment system works with patients and Practice staff and the new appt slots are not used inappropriately
- Primary Care staff remember to use the Token system and/or document when attendance is discussed
- Local community are receptive to messaging, advice and encouragement by stakeholders

## Assumptions:

- stakeholders are receptive and have time to engage and share ideas

## INPUTS

- Engagement with stakeholders
- Time/space for meetings

## ACTIVITIES

### Assumptions:

- Coordinated action across and between Primary Care and schools is possible and well received
- Primary Care engagement is valued by local population

## OUTPUTS

- Fewer GP appointments for children 2-11yrs within nursery/school hours
- More discussion of attendance during Primary Care consultations
- Primary Care advising specifically when appropriate to return to school - and liaising with school
- Improved attendance of young children in Brinnington at nursery

## OUTCOMES

- Improved attendance at primary schools in Brinnington

### Assumption:

- Improved nursery attendance leads to improved “school readiness” and improved school attendance

## IMPACTS

- Improved socio-economic circumstances in Brinnington residents
- Improved healthy life expectancy in Brinnington residents
- Reduced health inequity within Stockport

### Assumption:

- The national political (housing, employment) landscape is conducive to residents capitalizing on their educational achievements

# LOGIC MODEL CHALLENGES

## Challenges:

- Limited time available for current project, and difficulty implementing change in time for start of new school year
- Fewer studies of attendance in primary school compared with secondary school
- Arranging meetings and activities in accordance with term times / school holidays

## INPUTS

- Engagement with stakeholders
- Time/space for meetings

## ACTIVITIES

## Challenges:

- Ability/acceptability of new appointment systems in different primary care settings with different ways of working
- Demonstrating to Primary Care staff that we are well placed to address absenteeism in our professional roles - everyone's business
- GPs' adoption of addressing attendance in already short consultations, with no short-term benefit to the Practice
- Additional pressure on Pharmacy staff who have also recently adopted the Pharmacy First scheme
- Ensuring families view Primary Care as supporting them with their health through school attendance, rather than penalizing them for poor attendance

## Challenges:

- Ensure the Token system is not used inappropriately by families who would not normally have attended the GP/Pharmacy
- Reporting of nursery attendance is not mandatory
- Other factors (within and outside of Primary Care) also hinder nursery/school attendance, so wider determinants must be addressed alongside this approach

## OUTPUTS

- Fewer GP appointments for children 2-11yrs within nursery/school hours
- More discussion of attendance during Primary Care consultations
- Primary Care advising specifically when appropriate to return to school - and liaising with school
- Improved attendance of young children in Brinnington at nursery

## OUTCOMES

- Improved attendance at primary schools in Brinnington

## Challenges:

- Lack of time to demonstrate meaningful change in school attendance figures

## IMPACTS

- Improved socio-economic circumstances in Brinnington residents
- Improved healthy life expectancy in Brinnington residents
- Reduced health inequity within Stockport

## Challenges:

- Maintaining momentum long enough to see long-term impact - could be several years
- Other wider determinants of health also impact on longer-term health outcomes