# Planning With Our Communities Transcript

Planning with our communities. It takes a whole community to help kids stay on the path to school. To improve school attendance we need everyone to work together to make sure children are healthy, families are empowered, communities are engaged, schools are ready, and services are all working together.

Remote School Attendance Strategy, or RSAS supports this by working together with our communities to create and deliver a local Community Attendance Plan. Each community is different and has different strengths, goals, and needs. A Community Attendance Plan helps RSAS teams work with their community to set goals and agree on a way to make sure everyone is on the same page about how to improve school attendance. There are some things that we know RSAS needs to do to improve attendance. These are things like having governance committees and community mapping to make things run smoothly. These are part of RSAS in all communities. But we also know every community is different and the path to school is not the same in every place. That means that every plan needs to be different. We design our plans with the community and it is important that everyone has a say in what should be included. We have a yarn with families, Elders and other people in our communities and listen to what they want in the plan. After all, local people know their mobs better than anyone else. Working with our communities, RSAS teams choose from a menu of different activities to develop a local Community Attendance Plan. For example, some RSAS teams may talk to people and find their community needs more support for the little ones so children are ready to learn by the time they start school. However, in other places RSAS might want to work with older students who need to find a way back into school. RSAS teams use their skills, knowledge and relationships with their community to make a plan that meets local needs. We also make sure everyone in the community knows about RSAS and the plan to improve school attendance. This means we have to share the plan with everyone. We talk to people about what RSAS can do, how they can support kids to go to school or get help if they need it. By sharing information, talking about the plan and building relationships we can work as one to give our kids the best start in life. Because when relationships in the community are strong, the community is strong too. And strong communities look out for their kids by helping them stay on their path to school.

We walk with students and their families, we walk with schools and our communities. We’re all in this together to turn young dreams into reality. Because school attendance is everyone’s business.