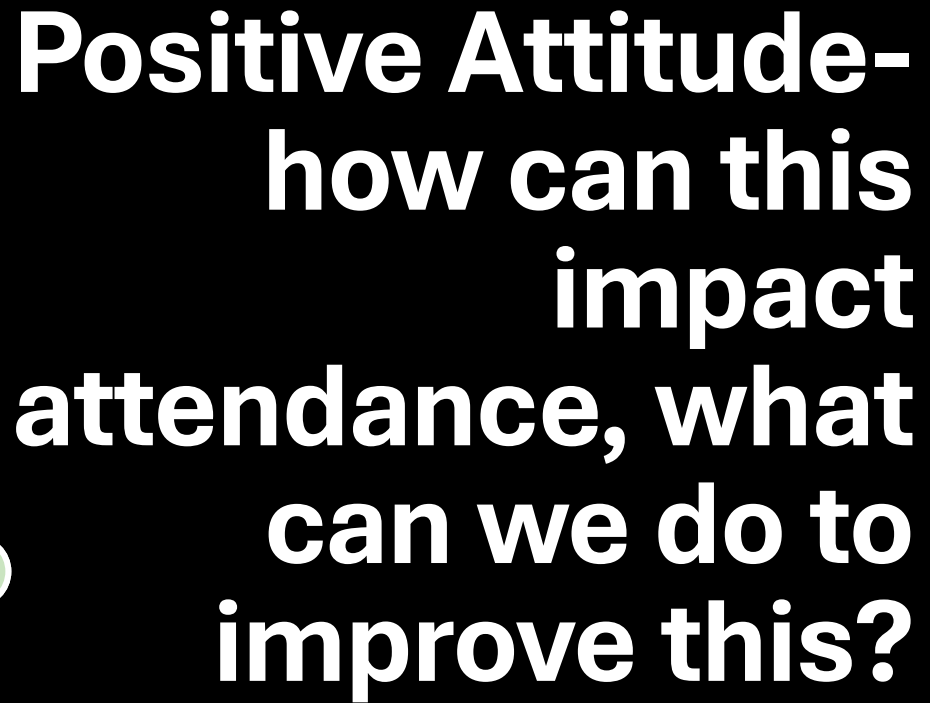


**Positive Attitude-
how can this
impact
attendance, what
can we do to
improve this?**



Lesson 4: Who is Katriona O'Sullivan?

Katriona's home life was chaotic. Both her parents were heroin addicts and the family was poor. She didn't have clean clothes, wasn't fed and didn't wash. She was bullied at school.

Her nursery teacher went the extra mile for her: gave her breakfast, showed her warmth and encouragement and showed her how to take care of herself.

Katriona became a troubled teen, drinking and taking drugs. But she was bright girl and despite the angry exterior, she caught the attention of her English teacher who could see her potential.

Unfortunately Katriona was really struggling and she ended up dropping out of school, became homeless, pregnant and destined for a troubled life.



Lesson 4: Katriona O'Sullivan

- Her English teacher didn't give up on her though. He arranged a bit of money for childcare and a place at school to finish her English and Maths exams. She had given up on herself, but he didn't give up on her.
- Katriona went on to do a degree in Psychology at Trinity College, Dublin. She also got a PhD and started teaching there.
- Now she is a loud voice for access to education and set up a scholarship for disadvantaged students in her English teachers name; Mr Pickering.

