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Unintended Consequences of Rewards for Student Attendance: Results from a Field Experiment in Indian Classrooms

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Highlights

- Students faced an experimental incentive for meeting an attendance target.
- When it was in place, the incentive increased average attendance.
- After it ended, baseline attenders were unaffected.
- Instead, baseline non-attenders attended less than if they had not been incentivized.
- Their test scores, interest, optimism and confidence were negatively affected.

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