



Barlaston C.E. (VC) First School

“Let Your Light Shine”

Exclusions Policy

Our Mission Statement

“This school is a place of learning, friendship and fun, in a context of Christian values and ethos.

Where each person is uniquely valued and their gifts and potential are nurtured and developed”

Equality Statement

The school is committed to providing the full range of opportunities for all pupils, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity, social, cultural or religious background. All pupils have access to the curriculum, and the right to a learning environment, which dispels ignorance, prejudice or stereotyping.

Dyslexia Statement

To ensure that children on the dyslexic spectrum have equal opportunities and that their diverse strengths are celebrated and built on.

Safeguarding Statement

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment

Exclusion of Pupils Policy

This policy deals with the policy and practice which informs the School’s use of exclusion. It is underpinned by the shared commitment of all members of the school community to achieve two important aims: 1. The first is to ensure the safety and well-being of all members of the school community, and to maintain an appropriate education environment in which all can learn and succeed; 2. The second is to realise the aim of reducing the need to use exclusion as a sanction.

Introduction

The decision to exclude a pupil will be taken in the following circumstances: (a) In response to a serious breach of the school’s Behaviour Policy (b) If allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of other persons or the pupil him/herself in the school. Exclusion is an extreme sanction and is only administered by the Headteacher. Exclusion, whether for a fixed term or permanent may be used for any of the following, all of which constitute examples of unacceptable conduct, and are infringements of the school’s Behaviour Policy:

- Verbal abuse to staff and others
- Verbal abuse to pupils
- Physical abuse to/attack on staff

- Physical abuse to/attack on pupils
- Indecent behaviour
- Damage to property
- Misuse of illegal drugs
- Misuse of other substances
- Theft
- Serious actual or threatened violence against another pupil or a member of staff
- Sexual abuse or assault
- Supplying an illegal drug
- Carrying an offensive weapon
- Arson

Unacceptable behaviour which has previously been reported and for which school sanctions and other interventions have not been successful in modifying the pupil's behaviour.

This is not an exhaustive list and there may be other situations where the Headteacher makes the judgement that exclusion is an appropriate sanction. At times the Headteacher will decide not to use the extreme sanction of an exclusion but will decide that a Pastoral Support Plan should be drawn up to try avoid the sanction of an exclusion in the future.

The DfE regulations allow the Headteacher to exclude a pupil for one or more fixed periods not exceeding a total of 45 school days in any one school year. The Governors have established arrangements to review promptly all permanent exclusions from the school and all fixed term exclusions that would lead to a pupil being excluded for more than 15 days in a school term or missing a public examination.

The Governors have established arrangements to review fixed term exclusions which would lead to a pupil being excluded for more than five days but not more than 15 days in a school term where a parent has expressed a wish to make representations.

Following exclusion, parents are contacted immediately where possible. A letter will be sent by post giving details of the exclusion and the date the exclusion ends. Parents have a right to make representations to the Governing Body and the Local Authority as directed in the letter.

A return to school meeting will be held following the expiry of the fixed term exclusion and this will involve a member of the Senior Management Team and other staff where appropriate.

During the course of a fixed term exclusion where the pupil is to be at home, parents are advised that the pupil is not allowed on the school premises, and that daytime supervision is their responsibility as parents/guardians.

Records relating to exclusions will be stored confidentially.

Permanent Exclusion

The decision to exclude a pupil permanently is a serious one. There are two main types of situation in which permanent exclusion may be considered: 1. The first is a final, formal step in a concerted process for dealing with disciplinary offences following the use of a wide range of other strategies, which have been used without

success. It is an acknowledgement that all available strategies have been exhausted and is used as a last resort. This would include persistent and defiant misbehaviour including bullying (which would include racist or homophobic bullying) or repeated possession and/or use of an illegal drug on school premises. The second is where there are exceptional circumstances and it is not appropriate to implement other strategies and where it could be appropriate to permanently exclude a pupil for a first or “one off” offence.

These might include:

- Serious actual or threatened violence against another pupil or a member of staff
- Sexual abuse or assault
- Supplying an illegal drug
- Carrying an Offensive Weapon (Offensive weapons are defined in the Prevention of Crime Act 1993 as “any article made or adapted for causing injury to the person; or intended by the person having it with him for such use by him”).
- Arson

Policy to be reviewed Feb 2024