



## **POLICY: Exclusion Arrangements**

<b>Responsible Governing Body Committee:</b>	<b>Full Trustees</b>
<b>Policy type: (Statutory/Non Statutory)</b>	<b>Statutory</b>
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<b>Date policy will be reviewed</b>	<b>April 2021</b>

<b>Review Completed</b>	<b>Amendments Y/N</b>	<b>Reason for change</b>

## Exclusion Arrangements

This document sets out the arrangements for school exclusions and should be read in conjunction with our Behaviour Policy.

### Grounds for Exclusion

A child will be excluded from school only as a last resort as a result of serious violence, unacceptable breaches of our behaviour policy or of the criminal law. A child would be excluded when allowing him/her to remain in school would be seriously detrimental to the education or welfare of the child or others in school.

Serious misbehaviour which may result in exclusion:

- a. Persistent refusal to carry out reasonable instructions issued by the school staff.
- b. Persistent disruptive behaviour or disruption to lessons
- c. Bullying
- d. Serious physical assault of children or staff.
- e. Verbal abuse or threats directed at children or school staff.
- f. Serious or persistent theft.
- g. Possession or misuse of drugs, alcohol or other illegal/dangerous substances, including tobacco.
- h. Possession of a weapon or implement that could cause harm.
- i. Inappropriate behaviour of a sexual nature
- j. Serious or persistent racial abuse.
- k. Serious or persistent vandalism on the school site.
- l. 'Prevent' concerns.

NB: this list is not exhaustive

The school may use exclusion for isolated serious incidents or persistent breaches of the behaviour policy.

Other circumstances may arise when the Headteacher / Principal decides it would be appropriate to exclude a child. In all cases, the parents/carers of any excluded child will be fully informed of the reason(s) for exclusion. School will give particular consideration to the fair treatment of pupils from groups who are vulnerable to exclusion.

Disruptive behaviour can be an indication of unmet needs. Whilst a single, major incident may justify exclusion, continued failure to respond to other sanctions may also arise. In such cases, incidents causing concern and actions taken will be fully and accurately recorded by the Headteacher / Principal and staff concerned. If the school has a concern about a pupil's behaviour, we will try to identify any causal factors and intervene early in order to reduce the need for a subsequent exclusion. This may lead to a multi-agency assessment that goes beyond a pupil's educational need or a Behaviour Support Plan. Every effort will be made to discuss behaviour problems with parents and to seek co-operation in resolving problems before exclusion is considered for any child.

## **Fixed-term exclusions**

Only the Headteacher / Principal (or the Deputy Head / Vice Principal in the Head's absence) has the power to exclude a pupil from school. The Headteacher / Principal may exclude a pupil for one or more fixed periods for up to 45 days in any one school year.

The school will set a number of days for the exclusion, the number of days may increase as:

- The incidents become more serious
- The student persists in displaying the same behaviours despite previous sanctions or support

If the Headteacher / Principal excludes a pupil they must inform the parents immediately, giving reasons for the exclusion. At the same time the Headteacher / Principal will make it clear to the parents that they can, if they wish, appeal against the decision to the governing body. The school must inform the parents how to make an appeal. The Statutory exclusion letter following DfE guidelines will be used.

On reintegrating pupils back into school, the student will meet with the Headteacher / Principal or Senior Leader on the first day back at school, with meetings also arranged with parents/carers, where discussions will take place for management of future behaviour.

School should set and mark work for pupils during days 1 – 5 of an exclusion.

Students 'at risk' of permanent exclusion will meet with the Headteacher / Principal (or Vice Headteacher / Principal) and their parents to discuss the most appropriate way forward to support the needs of the students and those within the college. This may include a temporary or permanent move to another school for a fresh start and opportunity to recover positive behaviour.

## **Permanent Exclusions**

Only the Headteacher / Principal may exclude a pupil permanently. It is also possible for the Headteacher / Principal to convert a fixed term exclusion into a permanent exclusion, if the circumstances upon investigation warrant this.

Permanent exclusion is the most serious sanction the school has, and will be rarely used. However, a student may be permanently excluded for:

- An extremely serious 'one off' incident such as serious violence, serious bullying or supplying drugs.
- Persistently displaying serious behaviours despite a series of previous sanctions and support.

The Headteacher / Principal must inform the governing body and local authority of any permanent exclusions and about any fixed term exclusions beyond five days in any one term.

School should set and mark work for pupils during days 1 – 5 of an exclusion, and alternative provision must be arranged from the 6th day through the local authority.

### **Exclusion Panel**

The governing body forms an Exclusion Panel which considers any exclusion on behalf of the governors. When an exclusion panel meets to consider an exclusion, they consider the circumstances in which the pupil was excluded, consider any representation by parents and consider whether the pupil should be reinstated. If the exclusion panel decides that a pupil should be reinstated the Headteacher / Principal must comply with this ruling.

### **The Role of Governors**

- The governing body has the responsibility of setting down these general guidelines on standards of discipline and behaviour which reflect the school's ethos of positive behaviour and of reviewing their effectiveness.
- The governing body will follow the Department for Education's guidelines on exclusion.
- The governors support the Headteacher / Principal in carrying out these guidelines.
- The Headteacher / Principal has the day-to-day authority to implement the school behaviour and discipline policies but governors may give advice.
- The governing body itself can neither exclude a pupil nor extend the exclusion period made by the Headteacher / Principal.

### **The Role of Parents**

- We hope to encourage parents to play a positive part in the resolution of any learning and behaviour difficulties.
- Every effort will be made to enable discussion to take place with the parent especially when exclusion is being contemplated.
- If, despite approaches to parents and the involvement of outside agencies, the school is unable to persuade a parent to visit to discuss problems, the matter will be passed to the governing body.