

Exclusion Policy



*'Learning for life,
building a firm foundation'*

Reviewed: June 2018

Chair of Governors:

Headteacher:

This policy should be read alongside the Behaviour Policy.

This policy applies to all children of statutory school age.

The school follows the Local Authority's Guidance 2004 which is based on DfES advice. The LA is due to update their guidance booklet. DfES are due to publish their most recent guidance imminently. It is only the Headteacher (or Deputy Headteacher in absence of) who can make the decision to exclude, whether it be fixed or permanent. Collection of evidence by headteacher to inform decision about exclusion is crucial (ABC forms).

Exclusion from school is a severe sanction which is used when severe unacceptable behaviour has taken place and when all other sanctions have been unsuccessful. Exclusion fixed term or permanent MUST be viewed as the last resort.

At the point when Headteacher speaks to parent warning them that an exclusion may be imminent, a copy of exclusion policy will be sent to parents/carers (to be signed and returned).

Fixed term Exclusion

There are two routes to fixed term exclusion:-

- A) For some children the path to fixed term exclusion may be the result of an accumulation of poor behavioural incidents which seriously violate the school's code of behaviour; these misbehaviours, if they occur in the classroom, the behaviour may be so disruptive and severe that they prevent teaching and learning for the rest of the class. Before the Headteacher decides to make a fixed term exclusion, all other sanctions must have been attempted, leaving no other alternative.

- B) The other route to exclusion may be due to a behavioural incident in school which requires an immediate response. This can occur when the child has:
 - Deliberately physically injured another child
 - Verbally or physically abused an adult
 - Deliberately caused damage to school property
 - Displays behaviour of malicious intent
 - Brought illegal drugs onto the premises including cigarettes and alcohol.

Permanent Exclusion

This action may be as a result of:

- An accumulation of several 'fixed term' exclusions;
- For a very severe incident from a child (who may not have a previous history of exclusions).

When a child reaches the permanent exclusion stage, it is the expectation of the Headteacher that his/her professional judgement will be supported.

At this stage, the Governors' Discipline Committee will follow the procedures as set out in the Local Authority Booklet 'The exclusion of' based on DfES directives. (Refer to behaviour policy for behaviour management structures and routines prior to decision to exclude being taken).

Procedures following exclusion and return to school

The decision to re-enter child into school will be the Headteacher's decision and dependent upon consideration of a number of factors including child's 'readiness' to return. Each child's case should be considered individually.

Factors to consider are:

- Attitude and demeanour of child at re-entry meeting
- Ability to appreciate that exclusion was result of inappropriate behaviour
- Recognise recognition that he/she was/is responsible for the behaviour
- Recognition to try strategies to avert a repeat of incident.

All children who are excluded will have:

- A re-entry meeting with Headteacher and parents/carers
- A re-integration plan agreed and written prior to return
- Generally a fixed term will be offered a full-time return to school with immediate effect
- In some circumstances, a planned re-integration programme may be appropriate in order to give a child all opportunities to succeed. These may be from as little as an hour a day increasing over a period of time to full-time
- A governor will be present at re-entry meeting, wherever possible.

Responsibilities of parents

- Parents will be asked and expected to complete an agreement
- Supporting re-integration plan/behaviour plan
- Parents should accompany child to school for re-entry meeting
- Parents should accompany child to school throughout re-integration programme and collect them at appropriate time. They should wait with child until a member of staff comes to meet child.
- If, during time of exclusion child's class go on visit or trip, child forfeits right to participate and cost is non-refundable.

Permanent exclusion

There is an expectation from Headteacher and Governors that with any child re-entering, a re-integration programme will be followed and reviewed regularly; the child will be supported by the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU).

- Parents should accompany child to school for re-entry meeting.
- Parents will be asked and expected to complete an agreement supporting re-integration plan/behaviour plan.
- Parents should accompany child to school throughout re-integration programme and collect them at appropriate time. They should wait with child until a member of staff comes to meet child.
- If, during time of exclusion child's class go on a visit or trip child forfeits right to participate and cost is non-refundable.
- Following re-entry, child's behaviour will be closely monitored by SENCO and Headteacher
- Parent/Carers will be kept fully informed
- Parent Partnership may need to be invited to support parents, particularly in case of a permanent exclusion and if child is on SEN register.