



Rationale

The aim is to set out clearly what strategies will be used when the behaviour of a pupil becomes unacceptable. This policy will give an overview of the rules and legislation governing the Exclusion process. This document should be read in conjunction with the Behaviour Policy to give an overview of the standards of behaviour that are expected of pupils and the guidance given in school about those standards.

Every effort however will always be taken to help a child improve his/her behaviour before reaching the decision to exclude.

Types of Exclusion

- There are two types of exclusion: fixed period and permanent.
- Fixed period exclusion may not be for more than 45 days in any one school year.

The Exclusion Process

Exclusions will be used sparingly and only if there are serious breaches of the schools behaviour policy or civil law; or if allowing the pupil to remain in school would be seriously detrimental to the education or welfare of the pupil, or other children and/or staff.

☐ The Headteacher holds responsibility for taking the decision to make a fixed term or permanent exclusion. However in the absence of the Head teacher the Deputy or other senior teacher in charge may make a fixed term exclusion.

Permanent exclusion will only be used as a last resort, when all other reasonable steps have been taken without success and may only be implemented by the Headteacher.

Before taking the decision to permanently exclude, the Head teacher will take every factor available into account. These may include the following but this is not an exhaustive list.

- the age of the pupil
- his/her health
- previous record
- SEN history
- domestic situation
- parental or peer pressures
- severity or frequency of the behaviour
- the likelihood of recurrence
- whether the behaviour was committed alone or as part of a group
- child protection and safeguarding factors

Exclusion and pupils with Special Educational Needs and / or medical diagnoses:

As stated in the previous section, all factors will be taken into consideration when making a decision regarding exclusion. This is particularly important regarding pupils with SEN and/or a medical diagnosis as their behaviour is susceptible to mis-interpretation. We pride ourselves in knowing our pupils well and would always make decisions regarding exclusion in the light of a pupil's whole character and needs. If the behaviour leading to possible exclusion is considered to have been wilful and deliberate within the context of the child knowing and understanding it was unacceptable and was not, in our opinion, as a result of a child's Special Needs or medical diagnosis, then the exclusion policy will be implemented as for all pupils.

Where it is decided that an exclusion is needed, all necessary steps will be taken to refer the pupil for support or to other relevant local support agencies.

Fixed Term exclusions may be between 1 and 4 days of length.

In all instances of exclusion, advice and guidance are taken and followed from the DfE documents, copies of which can be found online or in the Safeguarding drawer and then the Exclusion file in the Headteacher's office.

☐ Persistent poor behaviour at lunchtime may result in exclusion from school for a fixed period of time at lunchtimes only following discussions with parents and /or carers.

Unacceptable behaviour off the school premises.

Unacceptable behaviour occurring outside of school hours and/or off the school premises may seriously compromise the safety and security of pupils on the school site and during school hours.

This may include bullying via social media which has taken place outside of school hours.

In severe or consistently repeated circumstances, this behaviour may lead to exclusion from school.