



ASHBY SCHOOL

EXCLUSIONS POLICY

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| Title of Policy | Exclusions |
| Date of adoption | Autumn 2013 |
| Originator | Geoff Staniforth |
| Date of review | Autumn 2018 Next review Autumn 2021 |
| Additional information | This policy should be read in conjunction with the DFE document: Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England Statutory guidance for those with legal responsibilities in relation to exclusion (September 2017) and the Ashby School behaviour and discipline policy. |

Ashby School

Exclusion Policy

Pupil Exclusion

We believe that pupil exclusion is best defined by the Education Act 2002 as 'to exclude on disciplinary grounds' and must be either a fixed term or permanent exclusion. In the school's Pupil Discipline policy, the Governing Body has stated that pupil exclusion is a sanction that will be used only in appropriate circumstances.

Therefore, we acknowledge that a pupil will only be excluded following serious or persistent breaches of discipline or if the safety of pupils and school personnel would be harmed if the pupil remained in the school.

The Head and members of the Disciplinary Committee are fully acquainted with the document 'Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England Statutory guidance' (September 2017).

Aims

- To only use exclusion as a last resort, as stated in the school's Pupil Discipline policy, except when an immediate exclusion is appropriate.
- To have in place early intervention systems to deal with poor and disruptive behaviour.
- To maintain full-time provision for permanently excluded pupils.
- To have in place systems to reinstate excluded pupils as soon as possible.
- To establish good working relations with parents of pupils who have been excluded.

All decisions to exclude are serious and only taken where the breach of school rules is serious. The following are examples:

- Breaches of health and safety rules
- Verbal abuse of staff, other adults or students
- Possession of drugs and/or alcohol related offences
- Willful damage of property
- Homophobic or racist bullying
- Use of mobile technology to film an incident
- Failure to comply with a reasonable request from a senior member of staff
- Theft
- Making a false allegation against a member of staff
- Sexual misconduct

- Assaults or fighting
- Persistent defiance or disruption
- Other serious breaches of the school rules

The Headteacher will make the judgement, in exceptional circumstances, where it is appropriate to permanently exclude a child for an offence:

- Serious actual or threatened physical assault against another student or a member of staff;
- Sexual abuse or assault;
- Supplying an illegal drug;
- Possession of an illegal drug with intent to supply;
- Carrying an offensive weapon;
- Making a malicious serious false allegation against a member of staff;
- Potentially placing members of the public in significant danger or at risk of significant harm.

These instances are not exhaustive, but indicate the severity of such offences and the fact that such behaviour can affect the discipline and well-being school community

Procedures

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| The Role of the Headteacher | <p>When making the decision to exclude the Head will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Undertake a thorough investigation into the alleged incident by looking at all the evidence that is available.▪ From the outset keep a written record of all the stages of the investigation plus signed witness statements.▪ Where appropriate, listen to the pupil's version of what happened.▪ Check whether the alleged incident was provoked by racial or sexual harassment and to take into account any breach of the school's equal opportunities policy.▪ If he thinks it is necessary, the Headteacher will consult with other relevant people other than those who might be later involved in reviewing this incident.▪ Look at alternatives other than exclusion such as:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Internal exclusion by removal to another class- Restorative justice- Mediation- A managed move▪ Decide on the length of the exclusion;<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fixed or- Permanent▪ Inform parents immediately.▪ Report the exclusion to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Disciplinary Committee (if appropriate)- The Local Authority |
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| <p>Fixed Term Exclusion</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In any one school year the Headteacher is allowed to exclude a pupil for one or more fixed term periods but not exceeding 45 school days. • During this period of exclusion, the school will continue to provide education for the pupil and plan for the pupil to be reinstated after the exclusion period has ended. • Once a decision has been made parents will be informed by telephone and then by letter. • When informing parents, the school will use standard letters from the (DCSF) guidance 'Improving Behaviour and Attendance'. • It is not permitted to extend a fixed-period exclusion or 'convert' a fixed-period exclusion into a permanent exclusion. In exceptional cases, usually where further evidence has come to light, a further fixed-period exclusion may be issued to begin immediately after the first period ends; or a permanent exclusion may be issued to begin immediately after the end of the fixed period. |
| <p>Informing the Discipline Committee and the LA</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within one school day the Head will inform the Discipline Committee (if appropriate) and the LA of a pupil's exclusion. |
| <p>The Role of the Discipline Committee</p> | <p>The Discipline Committee will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review all exclusions in accordance with the legislation ▪ Consider any representations from parents. ▪ Take the following into account when making a decision about exclusion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - special educational needs - disabilities - gender - cultural differences. |
| <p>Permanent Exclusion</p> | <p>A pupil may be permanently excluded if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All other strategies have failed and the student continues to be persistently disruptive. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The offence was a serious one-off offence such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - serious, actual or threatened, violence against a pupil or a member of the school personnel; - sexual abuse or assault; - supplying an illegal drug; - carrying an offensive weapon; - or any other serious offence. |
| Monitoring | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annually the Head will report the following to the Governing Body: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The number of exclusions ▪ The type of exclusions ▪ The outcome of each exclusion |
| Effectiveness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed in accordance with the school policy review cycle, or when the need arises, and the necessary recommendations for improvement will be made to the Governing Body. |