



KINGSDOWN SCHOOL

Exclusion Policy

Approved by by: Impact Committee Date: 25th January 2022

Last reviewed on: January 2022

Next review due by: January 2023

1. Aims:

Our school aims to ensure that:

- *The exclusions process is applied fairly and consistently*
- *The exclusions process is understood by governors, staff, parents and students*
- *Students in school are safe and happy*
- *Students do not become NEET (not in education, employment or training)*

2. Legislation and statutory guidance:

This policy is based on statutory guidance from the Department for Education September 2017: Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units (PRUs) in England. It is based on the following legislation, which outline schools' powers to exclude pupils:

- *Section 52 of the Education Act 2002, as amended by the Education Act 2011*
- *The School Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) Regulations 2012*
- *Sections 64-68 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 In addition, the policy is based on:*
- *Part 7, chapter 2 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, which looks at parental responsibility for excluded pupils*
- *Section 579 of the Education Act 1996, which defines 'school day'. The Education (Provision of Full-Time Education for Excluded Pupils) (England) Regulations 2007, as amended by The Education (Provision of Full-Time Education for Excluded Pupils) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.*

3. The decision to exclude:

Only the Headteacher, or Acting Headteacher, can exclude a student from school. A Permanent Exclusion will be taken as a last resort. A decision to exclude a student will be taken only:

- *In response to serious or persistent breaches of the school's behaviour policy, and if allowing the student to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of others**

*a more definitive guide to the school's consequences leading to exclusion can be found in the Behaviour for Learning Policy. The policy also contains information regarding the school's position on searching students and investigating incidents. Before deciding whether to exclude a student, either permanently or for a fixed period, the Headteacher will:

- *Consider all the relevant facts and evidence, including whether the incident(s) leading to the exclusion were provoked*
- *Allow the student to give their version of events*

- *Consider if the student has special educational needs (SEN) the School will make reasonable adjustments for managing behaviour which is related to a student's disability. Where exclusion needs to be considered, the School will ensure that a disabled student is able to present his or her case fully where the disability might hinder this and that the review procedure is made accessible for parents.*

The school may also consider further responses following an incident, such as a referral to Children's Social Care or the Police.

Taken from the Department for Education guidance, July 17

4. Definition For the purposes of exclusions:

A school day is defined as any day on which there is a school session. Therefore, INSET or staff training days do not count as a school day.

5. Roles and responsibilities

5.1 The Headteacher

Informing parents, the Headteacher will provide the following information, in writing, to the parents of an excluded student, this will be sent via e mail and also via post:

- *The reason(s) for the exclusion*
- *The length of a fixed-term exclusion or, for a Permanent Exclusion, the fact that it is permanent*
- *Information about parents' right to make representations about the exclusion to the Local Governing Board and how the student may be involved in this*
- *Where there is a legal requirement for the governing board to meet to consider the reinstatement of a student, and that parents have a right to attend a meeting, be represented at a meeting (at their own expense) and to bring a friend*

The Headteacher will also notify parents by the end of the afternoon session on the day their child is excluded that for the first 5 school days of an exclusion, or until the start date of any alternative provision where this is earlier, parents are legally required to ensure that their child is not present in a public place during school hours without a good reason. Parents may be given a Fixed Penalty Notice or prosecuted if they fail to do this. If alternative provision is being arranged, the following information will be included when notifying parents of an exclusion:

- *The start date for any provision of full-time education that has been arranged*
- *The start and finish times of any such provision, including the times for morning and afternoon sessions, where relevant*
- *The address at which the provision will take place*
- *Any information required by the student to identify the person they should report to on the first day. Where this information on alternative provision is not reasonably ascertainable by the end of*

the afternoon session, it may be provided in a subsequent notice, but it will be provided no later than 48 hours before the provision is due to start. The only exception to this is where alternative provision is to be provided before the sixth day of an exclusion, in which case the information can be provided with less than 48 hours' notice with parents' consent. Informing the Local Governing Board and local authority

The Headteacher will immediately notify the Local Governing Board and the Authority (LA) of: a Permanent Exclusion, including when a fixed-period exclusion is made permanent. Exclusions which would result in the student being excluded for more than 5 school days (or more than 10 lunchtimes) in a term.

Exclusions which would result in the student missing a public examination for a Permanent Exclusion, if the student lives outside the LA in which the school is located, the Headteacher will also immediately inform the student's 'home authority' of the exclusion and the reason(s) for it without delay. For all other exclusions, the Headteacher will notify the governing board and LA once a term.

5.2 The Local Governing Board:

Responsibilities regarding exclusions is delegated to the Local Governing Board. A representation comprising of three members from the Local Governing Board has a duty to consider the reinstatement of an excluded student (see section 6). Within 14 days of receipt of a request, the Local Governing Board will provide the Secretary of State with information about any exclusions in the last 12 months. For a fixed-period exclusion of more than 5 school days, Swindon Borough Council will arrange suitable full-time education for the student. This provision will begin no later than the sixth day of the exclusion. Provision does not have to be arranged for students in the final year of compulsory education who do not have any further public examinations to sit.

5.3 The LA For permanent exclusions:

The LA is responsible for arranging suitable full-time education to begin no later than the sixth day of the exclusion.

6. Considering the reinstatement of a student:

The Local Governing Board will consider the reinstatement of an excluded student within 15 school days of receiving the notice of the exclusion if:

- *The exclusion is permanent*
- *It is a fixed-term exclusion which would bring the student's total number of school days of exclusion to more than 15 in a term*
- *It would result in a pupil missing a public examination. If requested to do so by parents, the Local Governing Board will consider the reinstatement of an excluded student within 50 school days of receiving notice of the exclusion if the student would be excluded from school for more than 5 school days, but less than 15, in a single term. Where an exclusion would*

result in a student missing a public examination, a sub-committee of the Local Governing Board will consider the reinstatement of the student before the date of the examination. The Local Governing Board can either:

- *Decline to reinstate the student, or*
- *Direct the reinstatement of the student immediately, or on a particular date. In reaching a decision, Local Governing Board will consider whether the exclusion was lawful, reasonable and procedurally fair and whether the Headteacher followed their legal duties. They will decide whether or not a fact is true 'on the balance of probabilities', which differs from the criminal standard of 'beyond reasonable doubt', as well as any evidence that was presented in relation to the decision to exclude.*
- *Minutes will be taken of the meeting, and a record of evidence considered kept. The outcome will also be recorded on the student's educational record.*

The Local Governing Board will notify, in writing, the Headteacher, parents and the LA of its decision, along with reasons for its decision, without delay. Where an exclusion is permanent, the Local Governing Board's decision will also include the following:

- *The fact that it is permanent*
- *Notice of parents' right to ask for the decision to be reviewed by an Independent Review Panel, and the date by which an application for an independent review must be made*
- *The name and address to whom an application for a review should be submitted*
- *That any application should set out the grounds on which it is being made and that, where appropriate, reference to how the student's SEN are considered to be relevant to the exclusion*
- *That, regardless of whether the excluded student has recognised SEN, parents have a right to require the River Learning Trust (RLT) to appoint an SEN expert to attend the review:*
- *Details of the role of the SEN expert and that there would be no cost to parents for this appointment*
- *That parents must make clear if they wish for an SEN expert to be appointed in any application for a review*
- *That parents may, at their own expense, appoint someone to make written and/or oral representations to the panel, and parents may also bring a friend to the review*
- *That if parents believe that the exclusion has occurred as a result of discrimination, they may make a claim under the Equality Act 2010 to the first-tier tribunal (special educational needs and disability), in the case of disability discrimination, or the county court, in the case of other forms of discrimination. A claim of discrimination made under these routes should be lodged within 6 months of the date on which the discrimination is alleged to have taken place*

7. An independent review:

If parents apply for an independent review, the Local Authority will arrange for an independent panel to review the decision of the governing board not to reinstate a permanently excluded student. Applications for an independent review must be made within 15 school days of notice being given to the parents by the Local Governing Board of its decision to not reinstate a student.

A panel of 3 or 5 members will be constituted with representatives from each of the categories below. Where a 5-member panel is constituted, 2 members will come from the school Governor's category and 2 members will come from the Headteacher category. A lay member to chair the panel who has not worked in any school in a paid capacity, disregarding any experience as a school governor or volunteer. School Governors who have served as a governor for at least 12 consecutive months in the last 5 years, provided they have not been teachers or Headteachers during this time. A representative from the Swindon Local Authority will also be present.

Headteacher's or individuals who have been a Headteacher within the last 5 years may not serve as a member of a review panel if they:

- Are a member of the school, or governing board of the excluding school
- Are the Headteacher of the excluding school, or have held this position in the last 5 years
- Are an employee of the school, or the governing board, of the excluding school (unless they are employed as a Headteacher at another school)
- Have, or at any time have had, any connection with the school, governing board, parents or student, or the incident leading to the exclusion, which might reasonably be taken to raise doubts about their impartiality
- Have not had the required training within the last 2 years (see appendix 1 for what training must cover)

A clerk will be appointed to the panel. The independent panel will decide one of the following:

- *Uphold the governing board's decision*
- *Recommend that the governing board reconsiders reinstatement*
- *Quash the governing board's decision and direct that they reconsider reinstatement (only when the decision is judged to be flawed)*

The panel's decision can be decided by a majority vote. In the case of a tied decision, the chair has the casting vote.

8. School registers:

A student's name will be removed from the school admissions register if:

- *15 school days have passed since the parents were notified of the exclusion panel's decision to not reinstate the pupil and no application has been made for an independent review panel, or*
- *The parents have stated in writing that they will not be applying for an independent review panel. Where an application for an independent review has been made, the governing board will wait until that review has concluded before removing a student's name from the register.*
- *Where alternative provision has been made for an excluded student and they attend it, code B (education off-site) or code D (dual registration) will be used on the attendance register. Where excluded students are not attending alternative provision, code E (absent) will be used.*

9. Returning from a fixed-term exclusion:

Following a fixed-term exclusion, a re-integration meeting will be held involving the student, parents, a member of senior staff and the Progress Leader. The student will only be absent from school for the period of the exclusion. The student will then return to the Annexe until the return meeting takes place. The following measures may be implemented when a student returns from a fixed-term exclusion:

- *Incremental Graduated Response level*
- *Annexe day sanction*
- *Putting a student on report/Stretch and Challenge card*
- *Agreeing a behaviour contract*
- *Adjustment of curriculum or timetable*
- *Additional targeted intervention as per the exclusion intervention map or as deemed appropriate by the staff member leading the meeting:*

Exclusion Intervention Map



Student Name: _____

	short term school transfer (not yet in place)	FTE 1	FTE 2	FTE 3	FTE 4	FTE 5	FTE 6
Internal Support	Punctuality report	-Reintegration Report -IBP -EHR	-Reintegration Report -EHR, Review -EE meeting	- Reintegration Report -Careers Meeting -Boxing session	- Reintegration Report	-HT Report -Kingsdown Platform -QDM	-HT Contract
Progress Leader Support	-weekly monitoring	-PL Intervention	-Attendance Support	1:1 meeting	-Parent Meetings/calls		
Inclusion Hub Support	- check SEN Screening	-SEN Screening -Targeted Intervention - Hub Referral	-Hub Referral	-EP referral	-shared in class support		
External Support	-3 Day School Switch -5 Day School Switch			-PSP / Managed move	-Managed Move -EQTAS Placement	-Alternative Provision / Oakfield	
Specialist Support	-hub observations -paediatric referral	-School Nurse -Speech & Language	-TAHMS referral -LITURN -STEP -SMASH	-Andy Perry -VEW -Autism outreach - Care Package/ Riverside	-Police support -Salamanca -St Luke's Outreach	- Tuition service	

10. Monitoring arrangements:

The Assistant Headteacher monitors the number of exclusions every term and reports back to the Headteacher and Local Governing Board. They also liaise with the local authority to ensure suitable full-time education for excluded students. This policy will be reviewed by the Assistant Headteacher every 3 years. At every review, the policy will be shared with the Local Governing Board.

All student behaviour is tracked and monitored in school and students who have received multiple exclusions will follow a Graduated Response to exclusion. Students who are excluded on numerous occasions are at risk of permanent exclusion. A student's Graduated Response level will be shared at each reintegration meeting.

11. Links with other policies:

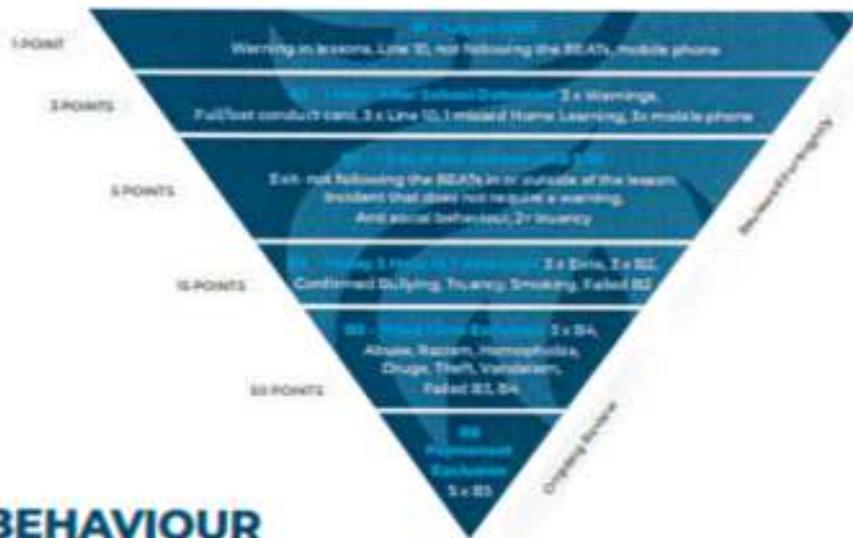
This exclusions policy is linked to our:

- *Behaviour for Learning policy*
- *SEN policy and information report*
- *Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy*
- *Attendance Policy*
- *Child Looked After Policy*
- *Anti-bullying Policy*
- *Behaviour for Learning Pyramid*

ACHIEVEMENTS



BEHAVIOUR



Signed by: 
Emma Leigh-Bennett

Signed by: 
Lynne Scragg

Date : 14th February 2022

Date : 14th February 2022

Appendix 1

Independent review panel training The RLT must ensure that all members of an independent review panel and clerks have received training within the 2 years prior to the date of the review. Training must have covered:

- *The requirements of the primary legislation, regulations and statutory guidance governing exclusions, which would include an understanding of how the principles applicable in an application for judicial review relate to the panel's decision making*
- *The need for the panel to observe procedural fairness and the rules of natural justice*
- *The role of the chair and the clerk of a review panel*
- *The duties of Headteacher's, governing boards and the panel under the Equality Act 2010*
- *The effect of section 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998 (acts of public authorities unlawful if not compatible with certain human rights) and the need to act in a manner compatible with human rights protected by that Act*