



Elizabeth Woodville School	
Policy Name:	EWS Exclusions Policy
Owner:	Deputy Headteacher
Statutory:	Yes
Date Ratified:	By Governing Body November 2020
Review date:	November 2021

POLICY STATEMENT

Pupil exclusion will be considered as a sanction within the School's Behaviour Policy in those circumstances defined as a serious breach of the behaviour code.

EWS is committed to reducing the use of exclusion to a minimum and this approach is based around good management practices, which seek to address problem behaviour before it reaches a crisis point and provide ongoing processes to encourage good behaviour in all our students.

Students and parents share a responsibility in maintaining positive behaviour in school and the school seeks to encourage parents to take a role in supporting the school. There is also a need to support victims of anti-social or violent behaviour in school and to ensure disruptive pupils recognise the effect their behaviour has on others.

Whilst exclusion will continue to be a last resort and will sit within the wider framework of school policies and practices to address poor behaviour, it is a sanction which the school will sometimes need to use.

Decisions to exclude will be made on a case by case basis in accordance with the best interests of students, staff, and the student involved. This highlights our determination to protect the rights of students to learn undisturbed and teachers to teach undisturbed and prevent a small minority causing problems for the hard working majority

IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY

Fixed Term Exclusions

- Other than in exceptional circumstances, an exclusion will be for the shortest time possible, depending on the seriousness of the poor behaviour. Most exclusions will be between 1 and 5 days and parents will be informed by telephone and in writing of the duration of the

exclusion and arrangements for the pupil's return. At the re-integration meeting, assurances as to future conduct will be required if further fixed term exclusions are to be avoided. The school will set work for the pupil during the period of the exclusion but the responsibility for supervision rests with the parent. If the pupil is found in a public place during school hours whilst excluded the parent could be subject to a fixed penalty notice.

- If the exclusion is over 5 days, the school will make the following arrangements for the period at the end of the first 5 days. As appropriate, either on or off site provision will be offered - this will be considered on an individual basis. EWS has agreed processes with other local schools to use their school sites and if and when required.

Permanent Exclusions

Within this framework, permanent exclusion will always be considered as part of our zero tolerance approach to serious offences, for example: drug use, supplying drugs, physical assault on staff or students, or the possession of a weapon on school premises, persistent bullying, or for persistent and defiant misbehaviour.

Permanent exclusion is considered following previous fixed term exclusions, when a student is receiving ongoing support but shows little or no improvement in behaviour, for example persistent bullying or for persistent and defiant misbehaviour.

Permanent exclusion will also be considered for serious or 'one off' breaches of the school's Behaviour Policy and if allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school. Should any of the following be found in the student's possession then Fixed Term or Permanent exclusions will apply:

- Knives or weapons
- Alcohol
- Illegal drugs
- Possession of drugs or smoking paraphernalia
- Stolen items
- Tobacco and cigarette papers
- Fireworks
- Pornographic images

Any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be used:

- To commit an offence
- To cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of any person (including the student)
- To sell for personal gain or profit (e.g. sweets, drinks, etc)

Other one off offences are included, for example:

- Serious actual or threatened violence against another student or member of staff
- Serious bullying for any reason
- Sexual abuse or assault
- Possession of, supplying or dealing of an illegal drug.

There will however be exceptional circumstances where it is appropriate to permanently exclude a child for a first or 'one off' offence. These might include, for example, offences such as:

- a) Serious actual or threatened violence against another pupil or member of staff
- b) Serious bullying for any reason, including disability, racism or homophobic comments or actions
- c) Sexual abuse or assault
- d) Possession of, supplying of, or dealing an illegal drug
- e) Carrying an offensive weapon: this would include any gun, any knife, any item adapted for use or intended for use as a weapon.
- f) Malicious, deliberately false or vexatious allegations against a member of staff

If the exclusion is a permanent one, the responsibility for providing education from Day 6 following the Head of School's decision falls to the Local Authority who will provide the education through the Complementary Education Service. Placement with that Service in no way affects parents' rights to make representations about the exclusion to the Governing Body or Independent Appeal Panel within the DfES prescribed timescales.

Procedures

All exclusions are processed and reported using the approved DCFS Guidelines and LA reporting procedures and internal records are kept by the school. In most circumstances students at risk of exclusion will have a support plan in place. If not a plan should be written as part of the readmission meeting with parents and the reintegration process.

Further information can be found at:

<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/exclusions/guidance/index.cfm>

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/behaviour/exclusion/guidance/>