

ARRANGEMENTS FOR EXCLUSION

As an Academy our core purpose is to ensure the highest possible standards of learning and teaching that lead to high standards of attainment and achievement for all students. To achieve this we need to ensure we have a safe, positive and support climate for learning. By creating this climate we will enable staff and students to have the best opportunity to succeed in all they do.

In any circumstances where it becomes necessary to take disciplinary action we follow our behaviour policy for guidance. As part of our disciplinary sanctions there is on rare occasions a need exclude a student.

Exclusions can take effect immediately and the Principal decides if this is a fixed period exclusion or a permanent exclusion. There is a process the Academy must follow and as a parent or carer, you also have a number of legal responsibilities.

FIXED TERM EXCLUSIONS

A student may be excluded for one or more fixed periods (up to a maximum of 45 Academy days in a single academic year), or permanently. A fixed-period exclusion does not have to be for a continuous period.

Exclusions would normally be used:

- For a major first offence, such as serious actual or threatened violence, abuse or assault, supplying banned substances e.g. cigarettes or carrying an offensive weapon.
- Where allowing a student to remain in Academy would be seriously detrimental to the education of other students, to the welfare of other student, staff or the student him/herself.
- More usually it follows a series of breaches of the Academy's rules and after a range of strategies to resolve the students disciplinary problems have been tried and have failed.
- When behaviour of students outside Academy is such that it can be considered as grounds for exclusion and compromises the expectations and standards set.

All exclusions, however short, must be formally recorded and the Local Authority made aware.

Once the decision has been made to exclude a student a phone call will be made as soon as possible to discuss the situation with parents/carers and this is followed by a letter detailing the reason for the exclusion and the length of the exclusion. Work will be made available for parents/carers to collect on behalf of the student; parents may collect work from the main Academy office.

Following the fixed term exclusion students are expected to attend a reintegration meeting with parents/carers on their return to Academy. This will be a formal recorded meeting detailing specific expectations of the student's behaviour moving forward. If the number of fixed term exclusions exceeds 15 Academy days (45 in an academic year) then the student may be permanently excluded.

PERMANENT EXCLUSION

In more extreme cases the Academy may issue a permanent exclusion. We follow statutory guidance which sets out reasons why it would normally be inappropriate to reinstate a student. These are:

- Serious actual or threatened violence against another student or member of staff
- Sexual abuse or assault
- Supplying illegal drugs
- Persistent and malicious disruptive behaviour, including open defiance or refusal to conform to Academy rules
- 15 days fixed term exclusions (45 in an academic year)

When a decision has been made to permanently exclude a student a letter will be sent to parents/carers that will explain the reasons for a permanent exclusion. The Academy will provide work for the student but upon the sixth day the student becomes the responsibility of the Local Authority and they will ensure appropriate education is provided.

PARENT'S LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

Parents have a number of responsibilities when their child is excluded:

- Parents/carers must ensure that during the period for which their child is excluded they are responsible for ensuring that he/she is not present in a public place during Academy hours. If the child is found in a public place at such times without reasonable justification parents may be liable to a fixed penalty notice issued by the Local Authority.
- Parents/carers must also ensure their child does not enter the Academy premises during the exclusion.
- Parents should arrangements to collect and return Academy work for days one to five of the exclusion.

Parents have the right to make representation about exclusion to the governing body.