

The Good Shepherd Primary Catholic Voluntary Academy



Exclusion Policy

Mission Statement

**Our mission is to develop our children with active and creative minds,
a sense of understanding and compassion for others and
the courage to act on their Catholic beliefs.**

**In our school community we celebrate our faith and we work together
to achieve our personal potential by trying to live like Jesus and
become the person that he wants us to be.**

Ratified On:	December 2018
Review Date:	December 2019
Chair of Governor's signature:	Mrs R Burke
Headteacher's signature:	Mrs M.H.B.Williams

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Philippians 3:13

Brothers and sisters, I know that I still have a long way to go. But there is one thing I do: I forget what is in the past and try as hard as I can to reach the goal before me.

It is the policy of the Good Shepherd Catholic Voluntary Academy to try to deal with all behavioural issues in an active, positive way, employing a wide range of strategies, including those specifically designed to avoid such issues reaching the point of exclusion (see Behaviour Policy).

Purpose of this Policy

This policy is designed to briefly outline the school's approach to exclusions within the statutory framework as defined in *The School Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) Regulations 2012*. It outlines only where the school applies its own additional guidance and policies, which complement and reinforce the statutory guidance, for purposes of clarity in the day-to-day operation of the school.

Principles

Exclusion is a sanction used by the school only in cases deemed as serious breaches of the School Behaviour Policy. A student may be at risk of exclusion from school for:

- Verbal or physical assault of a student or adult
- Persistent and repetitive disruption of lessons and other students' learning
- Extreme misbehaviour which is deemed outside the remit of the normal range of sanctions

A Fixed Term Exclusion from the school can only be authorised by the Headteacher or the Deputy Headteacher acting on their behalf. If none are available to authorise the exclusion a decision should be deferred until the opportunity for authorisation is available.

In the case of a Permanent Exclusion this can only be authorised by the Headteacher and must only be done after consulting the Chair of Governors of the intention to impose this sanction, although the final decision rests with the Headteacher of the school.

The school seeks to reduce the number of incidents leading to exclusions by promoting a positive atmosphere of mutual respect and discipline within the school.

The school regularly monitors the number of Fixed Term Exclusions to ensure that no group of students is unfairly disadvantaged through their use and that any underlying needs of individuals are being fully met.

Notification of an Exclusion

Parents will be notified as soon as possible of the decision to exclude a student and the reason for the exclusion. This will be done on the day of the exclusion being authorised by

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either direct phone contact or a face-to-face meeting. A written confirmation of the reason(s) for the exclusion will be sent to parents the same day.

In the case of a Permanent Exclusion, parents will be notified by the Headteacher in a face-to-face meeting.

A student who has been excluded will have the reason for his/her exclusion explained to them by a member of staff so that they understand the nature of their misbehaviour.

The school will also work to put in place a programme for the pupil on his/her return. This will include input from staff at the school, parents, if appropriate, and any other appropriate bodies e.g. School Home Support Practitioner, Attendance Service, Our Lady of Lourdes Trust or the Local Authority. Should it be decided for whatever reason that the matter needs to be put in the hands of another agency i.e. the incident leads to the discovery that there is a child protection issue, the school will continue to monitor the situation and work closely with that agency. It is hoped that in most cases following an exclusion, the child will be able to return to school and that further input will promote in him/her a more positive attitude and a subsequent improvement in behaviour.

The Chair of Governors, LA Inclusion Officer, Our Lady of Lourdes Trust and relevant school staff will be notified of all Fixed Term Exclusions the same day of the production of the exclusion letter, which they will receive a copy of; it will clearly outline the reasons for the exclusion.

Students Returning from a Fixed Term Exclusion

All students returning from a Fixed Term Exclusion are required to attend a reintegration meeting, accompanied by a parent. This meeting will seek to establish practical ways in which further exclusion can be avoided and behaviour modified to acceptable standards in partnership between student, parent and school.

Permanent Exclusions

A school will usually only permanently exclude a child as a last resort, after trying to improve the child's behaviour through other means. However, there are exceptional circumstances in which a Headteacher may decide to permanently exclude a pupil because of ongoing issues or even for a 'one-off' incident.

If your child has been permanently excluded, be aware that:

- The school's Local Governing Body is required to review the Headteacher's decision and you may meet with them to explain your views on the exclusion
- If the Local Governing Body confirms the exclusion, you can appeal to an independent appeal panel organised by the local authority
- The school must explain in a letter how to lodge an appeal
- The local authority and or the Academy Trust must provide full-time education from the sixth day of a permanent exclusion

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Appeals

All correspondence regarding an exclusion from the school will inform parents of their right to appeal to the Local Governing Body against the decision to exclude. This procedure is clearly set out in the statutory guidance. The person who should be contacted to initiate an appeal is the Clerk to the Governors.

Relationship to other school policies

The Exclusion Policy should be read in tandem with the school's Behaviour Policy as well as other relevant school policies such as the Special Educational Needs Policy, The Anti Bullying Policy and the Positive Handling Policy.

Equality Statement

We have a legal duty under the Equality Act 2010, in respect of safeguarding and in respect of pupils with special educational needs (SEN).

The curriculum is inclusive and facilitates the needs of all children regardless of their age, size, mobility, gender, ethnicity and ability. Our planning aims to foster an appreciation of each other's cultures and beliefs along with the promotion of a healthy and positive self-image. This is linked to the school's role as a Christian community, Special Education Needs and Inclusion.

Monitoring and Review

- The impact of this policy will be reviewed by the Local Governing Body
- The Headteacher will provide the Local Governing Body with regular monitoring reports which will help it to evaluate the effectiveness of the policy and procedures.
- The policy and procedures will be reviewed and amended in the light of such evaluation and in consultation with representatives of all key stakeholders