



Baildon Church of England Primary School

Exclusion Policy

Policy Creation: October 2020
Policy Review Date: October 2021

'The Lord says for I know the plans I have for you... plans to give you hope and a future.'

Vision Statement

In our school, we celebrate being part of God's family where all respect themselves, others and the world around them. Our vision is to develop a safe, caring community of inspired, resilient life-long learners with a spirit of curiosity, enabling them to flourish in an ever-changing world.

Rationale

Baildon Church of England Primary School seeks to avoid exclusions and they are extremely rare in this school. They take place only for very serious incidents or when other strategies have been tried and have failed over time.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Behaviour Policy.

In most cases, exclusions will be the last resort after a range of measures have been tried to improve the pupil's behaviour and after a range of strategies have been put in place to address the inappropriate behaviour which may lead to exclusion.

The Headteacher and staff will identify pupils whose behaviours place them at risk of exclusion, and seek additional provision to meet their individual needs, which could include working in partnership with other agencies.

Fixed term and permanent exclusions are used when other strategies and sanctions have not been effective over time or when there has been a single clear and serious breach of discipline.

A serious offence could by itself justify a pupil's exclusion. This may include an aspect of the following:

- Violence towards an adult or child (which is deliberate and/or causes serious injury)
- Extreme verbal abuse of staff
- Serious challenge to authority
- Absconding from the school building, or site
- Vandalism
- Persistent bullying (see Anti-Bullying Policy)
- Bringing weapons onto the school site
- Use or possession of illegal substances/materials in school
- Arson

This is not an exhaustive list and there may be other situations where the Headteacher makes the judgment that exclusion is an appropriate sanction.

Exclusion

Each individual situation will be investigated according to need. The Headteacher will gather evidence; seek opinions and advice of colleagues. The views of the pupil/s will also be sought to gain the full picture before action is taken. If satisfied that, **on balance of probabilities**, the pupil did what he or she is alleged to have done; the Headteacher may exclude the pupil.

Managing serious or persistent problems

- We accept that it is the behaviour that is the problem and not the child
- The behaviour of children giving cause for concern will be assessed
- Triggers or antecedents will be established
- Individual programmes will be planned to help modify inappropriate behaviour
- The child may be referred to the Behaviour Support Service for additional support, e.g. anger management training.
- Parents will be invited to discuss their child's behaviour and an individual programme drawn up. They will be kept informed of progress.

Individual Education/Behaviour Support Plans

These will be used to help pupils at risk of exclusion in order to support him/her to make correct behaviour choices.

They will:

- Identify objectives and address one at a time
- Include strategies for managing the environment, the class or group, the activities which give rise to the inappropriate behaviours
- Emphasise teaching the child alternative positive behaviours
- Specify the behaviour that is unacceptable and the consequence should it occur e.g. time-out, red card etc.
- Include some form of self-assessment e.g. chart to grade own behaviour during a session, to encourage responsibility for own behaviour

Classroom

Teaching and learning must be able to take place undisturbed in classrooms.

If this is prevented from happening by an individual or group, the behaviours must be tackled.

The aim of our Behaviour Policy is:

- To help pupils realise the appropriate behaviours and provides strategy/guidance on putting it right
- To promote positive behaviour
- To help support behaviour modification if pupils persist in making 'wrong' choices with their behaviour

To support good behaviour we have a clear process that is shared with the children. The school rules and 'class code of conduct' apply across all aspects of life in school. These are regularly reinforced to ensure that the children are clear about the levels of expectation of their behaviour and reviewed to ensure consistent use across the whole school.

Types of Exclusion

1. Internal Exclusion

It is the decision of the Headteacher, or Deputy Headteacher in their absence, as to whether to implement an internal exclusion following a STOP (see Behaviour Policy). This will mean that the pupil will remain in school, in isolation with a member of the Senior Leadership Team for the remainder of the day or time period deemed

appropriate. Parents will be informed of an internal exclusion and arrangements will be made for the child to enter school via a different door on the day of the internal exclusion.

2. Fixed Term Exclusion

The Headteacher may exclude a pupil for one or more fixed periods for up to 45 days in any one school year.

A fixed term exclusion is used when persistent inappropriate behaviour continues over time or if a one-off serious offence is committed such as:

- Violence towards an adult or child (which is deliberate and/or causes serious injury)
- Extreme verbal abuse of staff
- Serious challenge to authority
- Absconding from the school building, or site
- Vandalism
- Persistent bullying (see anti-bullying policy)
- Bringing weapons onto the school site
- Use or possession of illegal substances/materials in school

Parents will be informed of the fixed term exclusion which will range from 1 – 3 days depending on the timescale needed in order to make changes to the provision for the child's return. Parents, child and school staff will be invited for a reintegration meeting, usually on the pupil's first morning back into school so that an appropriate plan can be agreed.

During the course of a fixed term exclusion where the pupil is to be at home, parents are advised that the pupil is not allowed on the school premises and should not be out in public. The supervision during the fixed term exclusion is the responsibility of the parents/guardians.

School will provide suitable work to be completed during the fixed term exclusion and should be handed in at the reintegration meeting where it will be marked by the class teacher.

3. Permanent Exclusion

Permanent exclusion is very rare as it is a very serious matter and is never undertaken lightly.

Only the Headteacher, or Deputy Headteacher in their absence, can permanently exclude a pupil. The Headteacher may decide to permanently exclude a pupil only when s/he is sure that:

- The pupil has seriously breached the school's behaviour policy
- If the pupil remains in school, it would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupils or others in the school

The Headteacher must inform the Local Authority of all exclusions using the correct forms. The Headteacher will then inform the Chair of Governors and full Governing Body of any exclusion.

Right of Appeal

In all aspects of this policy, parents will reserve the right to appeal any decisions made by school leaders. In the first instance, parents should contact the Headteacher then the Chair of Governors. If concerns still exist at this point, parents should follow the parental complaints policy.

Where parents dispute the decision of a Governing Body not to reinstate a permanently excluded pupil, they reserve the right for this decision to be reviewed by an independent review panel.

It is the responsibility of the Governing Body to monitor the rate of exclusions and to ensure that the school policy is administered fairly and consistently.

Independent advice for parents and professionals can be found at: www.ace-ed.org.uk/

Review

This policy should be reviewed and ratified by the Governing Body of Baildon Church of England Primary School every year.

Headteacher:



Governor Approval: J. Ibbotson

Date: 12th October, 2020