



Deanwood Primary School

Exclusion Policy

Policy Scope: Deanwood Primary School

Responsibility: Local Governing Body

Review Frequency: 2 years

Review Date: June 2024

The Governing Body of Deanwood Primary School adopted this policy in June 2022.

Signed by D Giles, Chair of Governors

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Giles", with a horizontal line underneath.

Exclusion Policy

It is the policy of Deanwood Primary School 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).

Principles

Fixed term exclusions may be used following persistent unacceptable behaviour or a one-off incident or serious misbehaviour. Such misbehaviour would be judged on individual circumstances, with the child being removed immediately from the classroom or playground. This behaviour may be, but not limited to:

- Physical assault against a pupil/adult
- Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against pupils and/or adult
- Bullying
- Racist abuse
- Sexual misconduct
- Drug and Alcohol related issues
- Damage to property
- Theft
- Persistent disruptive behaviour
- Persistent disruption of teaching and learning

Fixed term suspension may also be used for the lunch time period if the undesirable behaviour occurs at this time of day.

Permanent exclusions may be used as a last resort, in response to a serious breach, or persistent breaches, of the school's Behaviour Policy; and where allowing the child to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school.

Behaviour outside school may also result in a fixed term suspension or permanent exclusion (see the Behaviour Policy)

Exclusion from the school can only be authorised by the Head of School. If the Head is absent from school, the "exclusion" should still take place so that the child is removed from the situation and the Head should be contacted as a matter of urgency so that they can decide on the appropriate action/sanction (if any).

If the Head of School is absent for a prolonged basis then, with the agreement of the Governing Body, decisions to exclude may be taken by the Assistant Headteacher.

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 Suspension 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 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.

Before a child is excluded, or before a final decision is taken, the student in question will have the reason for his/her exclusion explained to them by the Head of School or their representative and they will be given the opportunity to explain their action/s. This should be recorded in writing if possible

Exclusion Policy

Students Returning from a Fixed Term Suspension

All students returning from a Fixed Term Suspension 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.

How are children made aware of this policy?

Children are made aware of this policy in a way they can understand so that, together with the behaviour Policy, they understand the sanctions that may be imposed.

How are parents made aware of this policy?

Deanwood is an open school and we encourage parents to come in and discuss any aspect of their child's behaviour which may be of concern. Parents will be involved at an early stage if there are difficulties at school, and we expect parents to work with us to resolve any difficulties. In this way we hope that the need to exclude a child is minimalised.

Appeals

All correspondence regarding an exclusion / suspension from the school will inform parents of their right to appeal to the 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.