



## GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

### Exclusions Policy

Policy Name	Exclusions
Committee	Curriculum and Student Welfare
Owner	Vice Principal (Pastoral)
Statutory	No

Date Ratified	Review Date
October 2020	October 2021

#### POLICY STATEMENT

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

Guilborough Multi Academy Trust 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 staff, other pupils and the student involved. Internal isolation may be used whilst an incident is being investigated. 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

##### Internal Exclusions

An Internal Exclusion is an internal process within the school and is used when the objective is to remove the pupil from class, not from the school site, as a sanction for poor behaviour. It is not a legal exclusion so exclusions legislation and the department's guidance on exclusion from school does not apply. An Internal exclusion may serve a number of different purposes, although its primary function is as a sanction for poor behaviour. An Internal exclusion forms part of the whole school approach to promoting positive behaviour.



Pupils in internal exclusion will be required to complete set work provided by teachers. Pupils will also be encouraged to reflect on the reasons for their internal exclusion.

## 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-admission 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 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.

## 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, depending on the circumstances, will also be considered for serious or 'one off' breaches of the school's Positive 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
- Stolen items
- Tobacco and cigarette papers (including e-cigarettes and lighters)
- Fireworks
- Pornographic images
- Any article that a 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)

There will however be exceptional circumstances where it is appropriate to permanently exclude a child for a first or 'one off' offence. This 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.



If the exclusion is a permanent one, the responsibility for providing education from Day 6 following the Principal/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 DfE 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:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion>

The Children's Legal Centre provides free legal advice and information to parents on state education matters. They can be contacted on 0808 802 0008 or on <https://www.childrenslegalcentre.com/>

The Guilsborough Academy's positive behaviour policy can be found at:

<http://www.guilsborough.northants.sch.uk/for-parents/key-information/policies/curriculum-and-student-welfare/797-positive-behaviour-procedure/file>

Naseby Church of England Primary School's positive behaviour policy can be found at:

<http://nasebyschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Positive-Behaviour-Policy-September-2019.pdf>