

EXCLUSIONS POLICY

FIXED TERM EXCLUSIONS

The formal exclusion of a student as a temporary or permanent measure is the strongest sanction available and one which will never be used without considerable thought.

The school should provide our students with an environment in which they can develop as valued members of society; that environment must be harmonious, safe, calm and orderly. The sanction of exclusion will only be used when a student threatens to seriously disrupt the maintenance of that environment; it is a provision to maintain high standards of behaviour in an orderly environment. The serious nature of exclusion means that it should act as a deterrent to those students who do not meet the standards of behaviour expected in school.

A student can be excluded from the school for a maximum of 45 days in any one school year. An excluded student is not allowed to come into school or its vicinity for a fixed number of days.

Parents will be expected to attend a meeting at the school, usually with the Head of House or SLT, on the day of the pupil being re-admitted. On these occasions we ask that parents are accompanied by their child, so that we can discuss the incident and its consequences before he or she returns to school.

Work will be set for students to complete at home during the exclusion period. This will usually be accessed through our online learning platform. If for any reason this is not accessible, the school will provide work in paper format. Heads of House are expected to co-ordinate this, liaising with curriculum teachers and parents.

Any student considered to be at risk of permanent exclusion will be referred to the Head of House, who will review support strategies, including initiating the Early Help Assessment process and where necessary, a Pastoral Support Plan; parents will be expected to contribute to these processes.

MANAGED MOVES

In extreme circumstances the school may discuss with parents the need to carry out a Managed Move for their child. This is suggested as a way of avoiding a Permanent Exclusion and for students whose behaviour has either been repeatedly below expectation or has been extreme, this is an opportunity to have a fresh start. A Managed Move is dependent on another local school agreeing to take the student and a place is usually offered on a six week or twelve week trial basis before the student is formally taken on to the roll of the new school. During that period both schools work together to monitor attendance, behaviour and progress to ensure that the move is successful.



PERMANENT EXCLUSIONS

This is the most severe sanction available to a school. As such it is very rarely used at The Polesworth School and is reserved for the most grave or repeated breaches of discipline, where the Headteacher feels that the relationship between the school and student has entirely broken down, or that the student represents such a threat to the education or safety of others in the school that the only solution is a fresh start at another establishment.

Parents have the right to appeal against the Headteacher's decision to a panel of Governors. Work will be set for the excluded student until any appeal has been heard.

APPEALS

Parents have the right to appeal to the Governors at all stages of exclusion from School. The Governing Body or the Local Authority (LA) has the power to reinstate a student who is excluded where the exclusion is for more than five days or is permanent, or where the exclusion involves the loss of an opportunity to sit a public examination. Parents must be informed of their right to appeal against an exclusion to the governing body and to the LA. If the student is excluded permanently, parents have a formal right of appeal to an independent appeals committee.