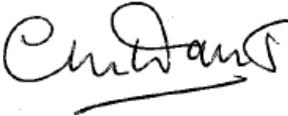




DEAN TRUST Rose Bridge

Suspension and Permanent Exclusion Policy Dean Trust Rose Bridge

Version and Date		Action / Notes
1.0	February 2019	
2.0	June 2020	Addendum Covid-19
3.0	September 2021	Further interventions added to page 2 and terminology of FTE amended to suspension in line with DfE guidance.
Policy Reviewed :		September 2021
Policy Review Frequency :		3 yearly
Next Review :		September 2024
Signature of Headteacher : 		Signature of Chair of Local Governing Body : 

This policy is in accordance with DfE statutory guidance: Exclusions from mainstream schools and Pupil Referral Units in England (September 2017).

Rationale:

We do not wish to suspend or permanently exclude any child from school but sometimes in extreme cases this may be necessary. A decision to suspend or permanently exclude a pupil will only be taken following a thorough investigation of an incident in which the child will be given the opportunity to state their case. A record will be kept of the actions taken, notes of interviews and witness statements.

Suspension or permanent exclusion will be used as a last resort having exhausted all other strategies for dealing with the child. Additional measures are taken before the school takes the serious decision to suspend or permanently exclude. When pupils' display unacceptable behaviours and are at risk of suspension or permanent exclusion a range of measures will be actioned including:

- Monitoring of behaviour by key staff – Form Tutors, Heads of Year, Pupil Support Managers (PSM's).
- HOY / Pupil Engagement Team interventions
- Restorative Approaches
- Engaging with parents
- Changes to teaching sets or classes
- Step out – isolation provision at another school
- Respite provision at another mainstream school
- Alternative curriculum
- Inclusion provision such as DTRB Turnaround
- Referrals to external agencies as appropriate
- Discussions/ assessments by with Targeted Education Support Service (TESS), Educational Psychologist

Implementation

Suspension –

Examples of behaviour that may lead to a suspension include :

- Repeated unacceptable behaviour,
- Repeated bullying of other pupils,
- Use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol,
- Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult or pupil,
- Physical assault against an adult or pupil
- Damage

- Theft

Permanent Exclusion –

The Headteacher maintains the statutory right to permanently exclude.

Offences that may result in a permanent exclusion include

- Serious actual or threatening violence against another pupil or member of staff,
- Sexual abuse or assault,
- Possession of illegal drugs,
- Carrying an offensive weapon,
- Persistent disruptive behaviour

Break/Lunchtime Isolation –

The school may use the right to isolate pupils on a short term basis at break/lunchtime, for those pupils whose behaviour at social times is disruptive and puts the safety of themselves and others at risk. Arrangement will be made to provide a packed lunch for those pupils entitled to a free school meal. This action will be discussed with parents or carers.

Involvement of Police –

The school may refer an incident to the police if deemed appropriate. Advice may be sought from the Wigan Schools' Police Co-ordinator prior to contacting the police.

Rights –

The School

- Only the Headteacher (or his designate if he is absent) has the power to suspend or permanently exclude a child from school.
- The Headteacher may suspend a child for one or more fixed periods, for up to 45 days in any one school year.

The pupil

- The pupil has a right to full time education provision from and including the sixth day of suspension.

The parents/carers

- Have a right to appeal against a suspension or permanent exclusion.

Responsibilities-

The Governors will

- Follow statutory appeals procedures and DFE statutory guidance: *Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England (September 2017)*

The School will

- Arrange for full time educational provision at an alternative setting for a suspension beyond 5 days.
- Keep a record of all suspension or permanent exclusions and sharing this data on a termly basis with Governors, CLT and Pastoral staff.
- Inform the LA and governors about any permanent exclusion or any suspension beyond 5 days.
- Inform parents immediately by letter, giving the dates of the suspension, reasons for the suspension and dates, arrangement for the child to return to school and their rights of appeal.
- Inform parents immediately by letter, giving the dates of the permanent exclusions, reasons for the permanent exclusion and dates, arrangement for the hearing.
- Ensure that work is set for pupils to complete and that it is marked.
- Arrange a re-integration meeting with the pupil and parent/carer, unless a permanent exclusion has been issued.

The Parent/Carer will

- Ensure their child completes work issued
- Attend re-integration meetings with school staff following a suspension.
- Ensure the child is safe and supervised during the period of the suspension and is not present in a public place during school hours without justification.

The pupil will

- Reflect upon their actions and engage with staff and external professional support to reduce the risk of further suspensions.

Addendum to DTRB Exclusion Policy due to full or partial closures.

In order to maintain a safe and orderly environment for our pupils and staff, within challenging circumstances, this addendum to our Suspension and Permanent Exclusion Policy specifies how this will be adapted within DTRB if breaches to our Behaviour Policy that put pupils and/or staff at risk with regards to their health, safety and/or wellbeing are made.

As referenced in The Dean Trust Risk Assessment and the school's associated Risk Assessment and opening plan, informing pupils, staff and families of our expectations regarding behaviour is paramount to ensure a safe environment and consistency of understanding and application.

We are mindful that certain behaviour sanctions outlined in our Behaviour Policy would not be appropriate at this time as social distancing and minimising the use of additional rooms and staffing must be avoided to reduce the risk of virus transmission.

Refusal to follow COVID-19 protection rules and other associated health and safety measures will be considered a breach of the school's behaviour policy.

Following behaviour expectations being shared and checked with pupils, any pupil who deliberately commits a serious or persistent breach of the COVID-19 protection rules will be sanctioned by the Headteacher. This sanction will involve the pupil being removed from their classroom into a safe and supervised place, contact with their parent made and a half-day or one day suspension being imposed. The duration is dependent on the time of the day that the behaviour breach took place. The pupil will then be invited in to attend a meeting (with adherence to social distancing and sanitisation guidelines) with their parent/carer on the following day or at the earliest opportunity that the parent/carer can attend, to discuss the incident. Parents/carers will be offered the opportunity to engage in a remote meeting.

A 'face-to-face' meeting, in person or remote, should take place within 48 hours of the pupil being excluded. Should the parent fail to attend the meeting then the Headteacher, or the senior leader with delegated responsibility, should telephone the parent to discuss the incident. The Headteacher, or senior leader with delegated responsibility, should then inform the parent/carer of their decision as to whether the pupil will be permitted to return to school. During any period of time that the pupil is at home, full access to remote learning provision will be provided and the pupil's participation monitored and feedback provided where appropriate.

Depending on the seriousness of the incident, the impact it has had on pupils and/or staff and the level of remorse shown by the pupil and family, a decision will be made by the Headteacher, or the senior leader with delegated responsibility from the Headteacher, as to whether the pupil can be reinstated to onsite provision.

If the Headteacher, following consultation with a Governor, who would ordinarily sit on that school's Governors' Behaviour Panel, deems that a reintegration of that pupil would cause significant risk to the health, safety and wellbeing of pupils and/or staff, then a decision will be made that the pupil's education will be supported remotely and the pupil will not be permitted to return to school during this period of phased partial opening.

If the Headteacher's decision is that the pupil cannot return to onsite school provision during this period of phased partial opening of schools, because of the pupil's behaviour putting the health, safety or wellbeing of others at risk, the parent/carer has the right to appeal this decision to the Chair of Governors for that school.

The parent/carer must present their appeal in writing to the Chair of Governors. The Chair of Governors will consider the appeal and make a decision, within 5 days from the day that the school receives the written request, to either uphold the Headteacher's decision or request that the pupil is reinstated.

Should the Chair of Governors uphold the Headteacher's decision then there is no further right of appeal during this period of phased partial opening of schools. For any period of time that the pupil is at home full access to remote learning provision will be provided and the pupil's participation monitored and feedback provided where appropriate.

Examples of breaches of COVID 19 protection rules include but are not exclusive to:

- Persistent and deliberate failure to adhere to social distancing guidance
- Coughing or spitting deliberately
- Persistent and deliberate refusal to follow new school guidance on movement around the school site

This addendum will be reviewed as required and is subject to amendments in light of the latest government guidance for schools.