



Haslingden High School and Sixth Form

Behaviour for Learning – Exclusion Policy

Governors' Statement of Principles

Purpose:

- to fulfil the Governors' duty of care to students and staff
- to promote teaching and learning and high standards of attainment
- to maintain the ethos of Haslingden High School
- to support the Every Child Matters outcomes
- to delineate the purpose of exclusions: exclusions demonstrate that certain behaviours are not acceptable; safeguard the school community and uphold its values; express the disapproval of the school community and deter other students from similar behaviour. Governors recognise that the application of rewards and sanctions must have regard to the individual student and the headteacher is expected to use his/her discretion in their use
- to establish procedures for monitoring and review

Rationale

The right to teach and the right to learn are central to Haslingden High School's primary aim of 'Achievement for All.' Our ethos promotes self-discipline; encourages positive behaviour, respect for others, attendance, punctuality; and expects the highest standards of work and effort within a caring, orderly and inclusive learning community.

The application of sanctions, including fixed term and permanent exclusions, must have regard to the individual student. The headteacher and SLT are expected to employ discretion in their use of sanctions, including exclusions. However, fundamental to the Schools' ethos is the principle of being Consistent, Insistent and Persistent in order to fulfil the School's primary aim of 'Achievement for All.'

Exclusion may be considered appropriate for incidents which occur:

- On school premises
- While travelling to and from school
- On supervised visits from school

- At any other such time, where the incident is clearly linked to school, or where allowing the student to remain in school is considered to prejudice the wellbeing, safety or educational opportunities of other students or of staff

FIXED TERM EXCLUSION:

A student may be excluded for a fixed term for an isolated incident or where a student's behaviour has not improved over a period of time, despite support and despite other sanctions.

A fixed term exclusion may be from 1 day to 45 days, up to a maximum of 45 days in one academic year.

For fixed term exclusions of 6 days or longer, alternative educational provision will be made via the School. This provision may be at another educational establishment. For Children Looked After, alternative educational provision will be made from the first day of the fixed term exclusion. The school may also seek first day provision for students deemed vulnerable with regards to their safety and/or wellbeing.

The decision to exclude will be made by the headteacher, or person acting with the headteacher's authority.

The list below sets out a range of behaviours for which fixed term exclusion may well be considered appropriate. The list is not exhaustive.

- Physical abuse of another student
- Threatening or intimidating behaviour towards another student or bullying
- Behaviour which discriminates against a group or individual
- Theft
- Damaging the School's reputation in the community
- Smoking in the School building or use of an e-cigarette in the School building
- Repeated smoking on the school site or repeated use of an e-cigarette on the school site
- Verbal abuse
- Refusing to follow instructions from a member of staff
- Verbal abuse towards a member of staff
- Damage to School property
- Breach of internet / ICT agreements

- Repeated breach of The mobile phone policy
- Possession of an illegal substance or being under the influence of an illegal substance, including legal highs
- Breaches of school uniform policy, including where they relate to jewellery, hairstyles, body-piercing etc and where these are persistent and in open defiance of the policy
- Other serious breach of the School's Code of Conduct / Behaviour for Learning policy / failure to meet the School's Expectations

PERMANENT EXCLUSION:

A student may be permanently excluded where a serious isolated incident has occurred, or where a student's behaviour has not improved over a period of time, despite support and despite other sanctions, including fixed term exclusion.

The decision to permanently exclude will be made by the headteacher, or person acting with the headteacher's authority.

The list below sets out a range of behaviours for which permanent exclusion may well be considered appropriate. The list is not exhaustive.

- Physical abuse
- Severe threatening or intimidating behaviour or bullying
- Severe behaviour which discriminates against a group or individual
- Bringing a weapon, or an item to be used as a weapon, onto the school site
- Possession of an illegal substance or being under the influence of an illegal substance, including legal highs (2nd offence)
- Sale / supply of an illegal substance or legal high
- Severe damage to School property
- Repeated theft

The Governing Body has agreed that there should be clear guidelines with regard to illegal substances. Any student found in possession or under the influence of illegal substances, including legal highs, during school hours or on the school site, including while travelling to and from school or on any school business, will result in a 5 day fixed term exclusion for a first offence and a permanent exclusion for a second offence. Anyone supplying an illegal substance will be permanently excluded. This policy can also apply to legal drugs or chemicals or other substances which can change the state of a person's mind without prescription.

The School may also notify the police of incidents that involve a breach of current legislation, or where the School believes police involvement is required or beneficial.

PROCEDURES FOR EXCLUSION:

A student may be accommodated in Stage2 (Pastoral Inclusion Unit) pending a possible decision to exclude.

When a decision has been made to exclude a student, the parent / carer will be contacted and informed of the decision.

An exclusion letter will be forwarded to the parent / carer with a reason for exclusion and details of the procedures involved.

The letter will take account of Government and LA guidance.

Work should be provided for a student during the first 5 days of exclusion. For longer exclusions, work will be given to the alternative provider.

The LA and Chair of the Governing Body will be informed promptly of a decision to permanently exclude. The LA will be notified of exclusions.

Government and LA guidance will be followed with regard to procedures to review, where appropriate, a decision to exclude.

Parent / carer will be required to attend a reintegration meeting with their child and senior members of the Pastoral Team following an exclusion.

A student returning from a fixed term exclusion will spend a period of time in Stage2.

- This policy has been developed with due regard of the following two documents:

*Behaviour and discipline in schools Advice for Headteachers and School Staff
January - DfE 2016*

*Exclusion for maintained schools, Academies and Pupil referral units in England
Statutory guidance for those with legal responsibilities in relation to exclusion – DfE 2017*