



## **OXLEY PARK ACADEMY**

### **EXCLUSION POLICY**

It is the policy of Oxley Park Academy 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).

#### **Purpose of this policy**

This policy is designed to briefly outline the school's approach to exclusions within the statutory framework as defined in the *The School Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) Regulations 2012*. It outlines only where the school applies its own additional guidance and policies, which complement and reinforce the statutory guidance, for purposes of clarity in the day-to-day operation of the school.

#### **Principles**

1) Exclusion is a sanction used by the school only in cases deemed as serious breaches of the School Behaviour Policy. A student may be at risk of exclusion from school for:

- Verbal or physical assault of a student or adult;
- Persistent and repetitive disruption of lessons and other students' learning;
- Extreme misbehaviour which is deemed outside the remit of the normal range of sanctions.
- Behaviour which constitutes a serious health and safety risk to children and/or adults in the school

2) A Fixed Term Exclusion from the school can only be authorised by the Headteacher or one of the Deputy Headteachers acting on her behalf. If none are available to authorise the exclusion a decision should be deferred until the opportunity for authorisation is available.

3) In the case of a Permanent Exclusion this can only be authorised by the Headteacher and must only be done after consulting the Chair of Governors of the intention to impose this sanction, although the final decision rests with the Headteacher of the school.

4) 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.

5) The school regularly monitors the number of Fixed Term Exclusions 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**

1) Parents will be notified as soon as possible of the decision to exclude a student and the reasons for the exclusion as well as the period of it and whether fixed or permanent. 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 the same day.

2) In the case of a Permanent Exclusion parents will be notified by the Headteacher in a face-to-face meeting.

3) A student who has been excluded will have the reasons for his/her exclusion explained to them by a member of staff so that they understand the nature of their misbehaviour.

4) The school will also work to put in place a programme for the pupil on his/her return. This will include input from staff at school, parents, if appropriate, and any other appropriate bodies e.g. Attendance Service or the Local Authority. Should it be decided for whatever reason that the matter needs to be put in the hands of another agency i.e. the incident leads to the discovery that there is a child protection issue, the school will continue to monitor the situation and work closely with that agency. It is hoped that in most cases following an exclusion, the child will be able to return to school and that further input will promote in him/her a more positive attitude and a subsequent improvement in behaviour.

5) The Headteacher or senior member of staff responsible for the exclusion will write to parents, the Governors and the LEA to inform them of the decision to exclude and the reasons for doing so. It is essential that any child that is excluded be given work to do in the period in which they are excluded from school. All staff will also be kept fully informed of any Exclusion.

### **Students Returning from a Fixed Term Exclusion**

1) All students returning from a Fixed Term Exclusion 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.

### **Lunchtime Exclusion**

These will be used when a child's behaviour at lunchtime is not acceptable to the adults taking care of him/her. The parents/carers will be asked to collect their child from school at 12.00 and return them at 12.55

### **Permanent Exclusions**

This will normally be used when all other avenues have been thoroughly explored, and when the school has no further strategies to try. For a single serious breach, or persistent breaches of the school's behaviour that seriously compromises the safety of staff or pupils, the Headteacher may impose an immediate and permanent exclusion in line with DfE procedures.

If your child has been permanently excluded, be aware that:

- the school's governing body is required to review the Headteacher's decision and you may meet with them to explain your views on the exclusion
- if the governing body confirms the exclusion, you can appeal to an independent review panel organised by the local authority
- the school must explain in a letter how to lodge a review
- the local authority must provide full-time education from the sixth day of a permanent exclusion

### **Review**

All correspondence regarding an exclusion 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.

### **Relationship to other school policies**

The Exclusion Policy should be read in tandem with the school's Behaviour Policy as well as other relevant school policies, particularly the Inclusion Policy, Special Educational Needs Policy and the Equality & Diversity Policy. It also has a close inter-relationship with the Anti-Bullying Policy and Attendance Policy.

### **Equal Opportunities**

Oxley Park Academy is committed to the provision of equality of opportunity for all pupils.

### **Monitoring and Review**

- 1) The impact of this policy will be reviewed by the governors' Curriculum Committee
- 2) The Headteacher will provide the Committee with regular monitoring reports which will help it to evaluate the effectiveness of the policy and procedures.
- 3) The policy and procedures will be reviewed and amended in the light of such evaluation and in consultation with representatives of all key stakeholders.

**Reviewed October 2014**