



Procedure for Permanent Exclusions

Permanent Exclusion will be reserved for offences that will have a seriously damaging effect on the life of the school, the well-being of other students or of staff or seriously and persistently interfere with teaching and learning in the school. This sanction should only be used as a last resort in line with the 2017 statutory guidance on exclusion from the DfE. A pupil should only be permanently excluded following a serious breach or persistent breaches of the school behaviour policy and if the education or welfare of pupils and others at the school would be harmed by the continued presence of the pupil in the school. Excluding a pupil is a very serious matter and should usually only be taken when all other strategies have been tried.

However, there are exceptional circumstances when it would be appropriate for a Head to permanently exclude a pupil for a single offence. These might include:

- Serious violence, threatened or actual, against another pupil or member of staff which creates fear and anxiety among staff or students.
- Persistent defiance of school authority or disruption of teaching and learning.
- Sexual abuse or assault.
- Persistent bullying, harassment or abuse (as above).
- Supplying an illegal drug or dealing in drugs on the school site or where students are the responsibility of the school e.g. on a school trip, travelling to/from school.
- Carrying an offensive weapon.

Once the decision is made by the Headteacher to permanently exclude, this must be referred to the Chair of the Board Of Governors who will instruct the Clerk to organise a meeting of the Disciplinary Committee to review and subsequently uphold or overturn the Headteacher's decision.

Modifying an Exclusion

An exclusion may not be extended nor can a fixed term exclusion be converted into a permanent one. In exceptional cases, for example where further evidence has come to light, a further fixed term exclusion may be issued to begin immediately after the first period ends or a permanent exclusion may be issued to begin immediately after the end of the fixed period exclusion.

Where possible the Headteacher will arrange a pre-decision meeting with parents/family to consider any relevant mitigating circumstances.

The relevant HOY/DSL will also where possible arrange a pre-decision meeting with the student concerned to consider any relevant mitigating circumstance.