



The Levels Academy Trust

Raising Aspirations, Realising Potential TOGETHER

Exclusions Policy

Date adopted: 26-11-15

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Review date: NOV 16

The Levels Academy comprises four schools, namely:

- Hambridge Primary School
- Huish Episcopi Primary School
- Middlezoy Primary School
- Othery Village School

This policy has been reviewed to cover each of the above schools.

Introduction

This Policy deals with the policy and practice which informs the Academy's use of exclusion.

Purpose and aim of the policy

This Policy underpins the shared commitment of all members of the Academy community to achieve two important aims:

- To ensure the safety and well-being of all members of the Academy community, and to maintain an appropriate educational environment in which all can learn and succeed;
- To realise the aim of reducing the need to use exclusion as a sanction.

Scope

Exclusion is an extreme sanction and is only administered by the Headteacher (or, in the absence of the Head, the Deputy Head who is acting in that role).

Policy statement

The decision to exclude a pupil will be taken in the following circumstances:-

- In response to a serious breach of the Academy's Behaviour Policy;
- If allowing the student to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the student or others in the Academy.

Exclusion may be used for any of the following reasons, all of which constitute examples of unacceptable conduct and are infringements of the Academy's Positive Behaviour Policy:

- Physical assault against a pupil (includes fighting, violent behaviour, wounding, obstruction and jostling);
- Physical assault against an adult (includes violent behaviour, wounding, obstruction and jostling);
- Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against a pupil (includes threatened violence, aggressive behaviour, swearing, homophobic abuse and harassment, verbal intimidation, carrying an offensive weapon);
- Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult (includes threatened violence, aggressive behaviour, swearing, homophobic abuse and harassment, verbal intimidation, carrying an offensive weapon);
- Bullying (includes verbal, physical, homophobic bullying, racist bullying);

- Racist abuse (includes racist taunting and harassment, derogatory racist statements, swearing that can be attributed to racist characteristics, racist bullying, racist graffiti);
- Sexual misconduct (includes sexual abuse, sexual assault, sexual harassment, lewd behaviour, sexual bullying, sexual graffiti);
- Drug and alcohol related (includes possession of illegal drugs, inappropriate use of prescribed drugs, drug dealing, smoking, alcohol abuse, substance abuse);
- Damage (includes damage to Academy or personal property belonging to any member of the Academy community, vandalism, arson, graffiti);
- Theft (includes, stealing Academy property, stealing personal property (pupil or adult), stealing from local shops on an Academy outing, selling and dealing in stolen property);
- Persistent disruptive behaviour (includes challenging behaviour, disobedience, persistent violation of Academy rules)

This is not an exhaustive list and there may be other situations where the Headteacher makes the judgment that exclusion is an appropriate sanction.

Exclusion Procedure

- All exclusions are of a fixed term nature and are of short duration (usually between one and three days).
- The DfE regulations allow the Headteacher to exclude a pupil for one or more fixed periods not exceeding 45 school days in any one school year.
- The Academy has established arrangements to review promptly all fixed term exclusions that would lead to a pupil being excluded for over 15 days in a school term or missing a public examination.
- The Academy has established arrangements to review fixed term exclusions which would lead to a pupil being excluded for over five days but not over 15 days in a school term where a parent has expressed a wish to make representations.
- Following exclusion parents/carers are contacted immediately where possible. A meeting will be called or a letter sent by post giving details of the exclusion and the date the exclusion ends. Parents have a right to make representations to the Headteacher and the The Levels Academy.
- It is Academy policy to place the pupil on report usually for one week to monitor behaviour and work. If the fixed term exclusion is greater than five days or an accumulation of exclusions exceed five days, a Pastoral Support Plan will be drawn up. This needs to be agreed with the Academy, student and parents.

- An alternative to fixed term exclusion may take the form of an "internal" exclusion, with the pupil being isolated to work alone or being asked to attend at a different time (1pm – 5pm). However, in some circumstances, either because of the severity of the incident or because of practical or logistical constraints, such an exclusion will result in the pupil being required to remain at home.
- During the course of a fixed term exclusion where the pupil is to be at home, parents are advised that the pupil is not allowed on Academy premises, and that daytime supervision is their responsibility as parents/guardians.

Roles and responsibilities

Exclusion is an extreme sanction and is only administered by the Headteacher (or, in the absence of the Head, the Deputy Head who is acting in that role).

Performance and risk management

Potential risks will be regularly monitored and evaluated to ensure this policy is kept up to date.

Communicating the policy

Any changes to this policy will be communicated throughout the organisation using appropriate communication channels.