



# Nansloe Academy Exclusion Policy

Full Governing Board February 2021

### 1. Aims

Our school aims to ensure that:

- > The exclusions process is applied fairly and consistently
- > The exclusions process is understood by governors, staff, parents and pupils
- > Pupils in school are safe and happy

#### 2. Legislation and statutory guidance

This policy is based on statutory guidance from the Department for Education: <u>Exclusion from maintained</u> <u>schools</u>, <u>academies and pupil referral units (PRUs) in England</u>.

It is based on the following legislation, which outline schools' powers to exclude pupils:

- > Section 52 of the Education Act 2002, as amended by the Education Act 2011
- > The School Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) Regulations 2012
- > Sections 64-68 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998

#### 3. The decision to exclude

The Headteacher (or, in the absence of the Head, the Deputy or Assistant Headteacher who is acting in that role) decides whether to exclude a pupil, for a fixed term or permanently, taking into account all the circumstances of the evidence available and the need to balance the interests of the pupil against those of the whole school community. All decisions are made on the balance of probability.

Exclusion may be used for any of the following, all of which constitute examples of unacceptable conduct and are infringements of the school's behaviour rules:

- > Verbal abuse to Staff and others
- > Verbal abuse to pupils
- > Physical abuse to/attack on Staff
- > Physical abuse to/attack on pupils
- > Indecent behaviour
- > Repeated bullying and harassment against another pupil or member of staff
- > Damage to property
- > Misuse of illegal or NPS (new psychoactive substances) drugs
- > Supplying illegal, NPS, or prescription drugs
- > Misuse of other substances
- > Misuse of ICT
- > Theft





- > Serious actual or threatened violence against another pupil or a member of staff.
- > Sexual abuse or assault
- > Carrying an offensive weapon
- > Arson
- > Racist or homophobic behaviour
- Unacceptable behaviour which has previously been reported and for which School sanctions and other interventions have not been successful in modifying the behaviour of the pupil.

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

#### 4. Informing Parents

Parents/carers will be informed by the end of the day the decision was made to exclude their child by telephone or face to face. All attempts will be made to inform them by telephone or in person but, if unsuccessful in contacting the parents, then a message will be left asking the parents to make contact with the school. An exclusion letter will be sent first class at the point of exclusion. Parents will be notified of the period of the exclusion and the reasons for it.

The school will provide parents/carers with the following information in writing:

- > the reasons for the exclusion;
- > the period of a fixed period exclusion or, for a permanent exclusion, the fact that it is permanent;
- parents' right to make representations about the exclusion to the Governing Board and how the pupil may be involved in this;
- > how any representations and appeals should be made; and
- > where there is a legal requirement for the Governing Board to consider the exclusion, that parents have a right to attend a meeting, be represented at this meeting (at their own expense) and to bring a friend. If the parent/carer is being represented or bringing a friend to the meeting, they must inform the Clerk to the Governing Board in advance of the meeting.

The exclusion letter will be posted directly to the parents, and to any non-resident parent with Parental Responsibility, at the address held on SIMS.

#### Informing the governing board and Local Authority

The headteacher will immediately notify the governing board and the Local Authority (LA) of:

- > A permanent exclusion, including when a fixed-period exclusion is made permanent
- Exclusions which would result in the pupil being excluded for more than 5 school days (or more than 10 lunchtimes) in a term
- > Exclusions which would result in the pupil missing a public examination

For a permanent exclusion, if the pupil lives outside the LA in which the school is located, the Headteacher will also immediately inform the pupil's 'home authority' of the exclusion and the reason(s) for it without delay.

For all other exclusions, the Headteacher will notify the governing board and LA once a term.





## 5. Parents Responsibility regarding their child's behaviour

Parents of an excluded child must take responsibility for their child and ensure that they are not in a public place without parental supervision during school hours within the first five school days of any exclusion. Parents might be prosecuted if their child is found in a public place without their supervision. Parents must also ensure that their child attends full time education provided by Local Authority from the sixth day of exclusion. If they do not, the school or Local Authority may ask them to sign a parenting contract. (See Cornwall Council website: Parenting Contract)

#### 6. Offering Support

Nansloe Academy is inclusive and uses a range of support measures to help to prevent pupils displaying unacceptable behaviours.

#### 7. Education off Site

It may be decided by the school to educate a pupil in an Alternative Provision Academy (APA).

The pupil will be placed at APA for a fixed period with a review to return the pupil to school. If, at the review, the pupil is not ready to return to school, the fixed period may be extended. If the pupil fails his/her placement at APA, then the school may decide on permanent exclusion in line with the lawful reasons for permanent exclusions.

When a pupil is reintegrated back to school from an APA, a meeting will be held with the parents and pupil and a Return to School Plan and Behaviour Contract will be written. The plan will include actions for the pupil to complete and what support the school will offer. The plan will be reviewed after a six week period. If a pupil fails to honour the plan or contract, the pupil may be permanently excluded in line with the lawful reasons for permanent exclusions.

#### 8. Safeguarding

An exclusion will not be enforced if doing so may put the safety of the pupil at risk. In cases where parents will not comply, for example, refusing to collect the child, the school may consider an internal exclusion until the end of the day, implementing the original exclusion decision from the time the child is collected from school, or, in more severe circumstances the school may contact social services and/or the Police to safely take pupils off site.

#### 9. Behaviour Outside School

Pupil's behaviour outside school on school business (e.g. on school trips, at sports events, or on the journey to and from school) is subject to the school's behaviour policy. Unacceptable behaviour in such circumstances will be dealt with as if it had taken place in school; and additionally this includes any serious breach of policy which could 'bring the school into disrepute'.

# 10. Converting Fixed Term Exclusion to a Permanent Exclusion or Extending a Fixed Term Exclusion

The law does not allow for extending a fixed period of exclusion or converting a fixed period into a permanent exclusion. In exceptional cases, usually when further evidence has come to light, a further fixed





term period exclusion may be issued, to begin immediately after the first period ends, or a permanent exclusion may be issued to begin immediately after the fixed term ends.

#### **11. Further Guidance**

For further guidance please refer to: Exclusions from maintained school, academies and pupil referral units in England (Statutory guidance for those with legal responsibilities in relation to exclusion September 2017)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/ 641418/20170831\_Exclusion\_Stat\_guidance\_Web\_version.pdf