

WHITWORTH COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

Behaviour for Learning Exclusion Policy

Date effective from:	June 2017
Prepared by:	P Dugdale
Approved by:	Governing Body
Minute reference:	17.22a
Date of next review:	May 2018

Version control record from December 2015.

Please note that where policy is LCC model policy, then the version details will be provided by LCC in the document.

Version numbers ending in a letter relate to documents under review and awaiting approval. Once a document has been approved then the version number will increase e.g. version 1a = approved version 1 being reviewed. Once version 1a has been approved it will then move to version 2.

Version Number	Date of change	Reviewed by	Brief reason for changes
1.0	March 2016	P Dugdale	Creation of policy

Behaviour for Learning – Exclusion Policy March 2016

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 Whitworth Community High School
- to support the Every Child Matters outcomes
- *to give guidance to the Headteacher in drawing up the Behaviour for Learning Policy*
- to delineate the purpose of sanctions: sanctions demonstrate that misbehaviour is not acceptable; 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 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 Whitworth Community High School's primary aim of being 'A Learning Community.' 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 ECM outcomes of: Be Healthy, Stay Safe, Enjoy and Achieve, Make a Positive Contribution and Economic Wellbeing underpin everything we do in school.

In accordance with the ECM Agenda, the application of sanctions must have regard to the individual student, and therefore the Headteacher and SLT are expected to use discretion in their use. However, fundamental to the School's ethos is the principle of being Consistent, Insistent and Persistent in order to fulfil the School's primary aim of 'A Learning Community.'

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 *whilst at any form/place of alternative educational provision*

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 by the school. This provision may be at another educational establishment.

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
- behaviour which discriminates against a group or individual
- theft
- damaging the school's reputation in the community
- smoking in the school building
- repeated smoking on the school site
- verbal abuse towards a member of staff
- refusing to follow instructions from a member of staff
- other serious breach of the School's Code of Conduct / Behaviour for Learning Policy / failure to meet the School's Expectations
- damage to school property
- breach of internet / ICT agreements
- repeated breach of mobile phone policy
- possession of an illegal substance or being under the influence of an illegal substance, or other substance
- 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
- homophobic / racist abuse
- false or malicious allegations

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
- 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 or other substance (2nd offence)
- sale/supply of an illegal substance
- severe damage to school property
- issues relating to exploitation
- homophobic / racist incitement or assault
- false or malicious allegations

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 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 substance 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 Internal Exclusion (Inclusion) 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.

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.

A student returning from a fixed term exclusion will spend time in Internal Exclusion (IE).