



St Mary's and St Peter's C of E School

Exclusions Policy

We believe high standards of care and love are an integral part in the quality of teaching and learning across the whole curriculum. Our school Christian vision of 'Life in all its fullness' applies to all areas of our school. The two great commandments given by Jesus will underwrite the life of our school; they are to 'love God' and to 'love your neighbour as yourself'. It is our aim for both of these instructions to be evident in the whole life of the school, in the relationships between all members of the community; pupils, staff and parents.

St Mary's and St. Peter's school fully recognises its moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils and staff. Our Exclusions Policy is one of a range of documents which set out the safeguarding responsibilities of the school. We wish to create a safe, welcoming and vigilant environment for children and staff where they feel valued and are respected.

We are committed to following all statutory exclusions procedures to ensure that every child receives an education in a safe and caring environment. A decision to exclude a pupil will be taken only:

In response to serious or persistent breaches of the school's behaviour policy, and

If allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of others.

Only the headteacher (or the acting headteacher) has the power to exclude a pupil from school. The headteacher may exclude a pupil for one or more fixed periods, for up to 45 days in any one school year. The headteacher may also exclude a pupil permanently. It is also possible for the headteacher to convert a fixed-term exclusion into a permanent exclusion, if the circumstances warrant this.

If the headteacher excludes a pupil, s/he informs the parents immediately, giving reasons for the exclusion. At the same time, the headteacher makes it clear to the parents that they can, if they wish, appeal against the decision to the governing body. The school informs the parents how to make any such appeal. (Local Authority Information Guide for Parents).

Following a fixed-term exclusion, a re-integration meeting will be held involving the pupil, parents, a member of senior staff and other staff, where appropriate. The following

measures may be implemented when a pupil returns from a fixed-term exclusion: agreeing a behaviour contract; internal isolation.

The headteacher informs the LA and governing body about any permanent exclusion, and about any fixed-term exclusions beyond five days in any one term.

The governing body itself cannot either exclude a pupil or extend the exclusion period made by the headteacher.

The governing body has a discipline committee which is made up of between three and five members. This committee considers any exclusion appeals on behalf of the governors.

When an appeals panel meets to consider exclusion, they consider the circumstances in which the pupil was excluded, consider any representation by parents and the LA, and consider whether the pupil should be reinstated.

If the governors' appeals panel decides that a pupil should be reinstated, the headteacher must comply with this ruling.

The headteacher monitors the number of exclusions (fixed and permanent) every term and reports back to the governors. The headteacher also liaises with the local authority to ensure suitable full-time education for pupils excluded for more than 5 days.

This exclusions policy is linked to our Behaviour policy, SEND policy and Equality Policy and Objectives.

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