

This policy is informed by our Trust's vision of inspiring all - pupils, staff and our communities - to believe in their own ability in order for them to achieve the best possible outcomes, both academically and socially. By living by our values of being innovative, responsible and caring, we create powerful learning communities - positively impacting all of the Weaver Trust community.

1. Introduction

1.1 This exclusion statement is to be read in conjunction with Weaver Trust's discipline and behaviour policy and the Department for Education's statutory guidance "Suspension and Permanent Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement", September 2022 ("the Statutory Guidance").

1.2 This statement outlines the types of suspension and permanent exclusions that the Headteacher can apply.

2. Exclusion Procedure

2.1 Weaver Trust must follow the Statutory Guidance when dealing with any suspension or permanent exclusion. A copy of this guidance is available from the Department for Education's website and may be amended from time to time. The Statutory Guidance deals with how the Headteacher may exercise the power to suspend or permanently exclude, the duty to inform parents/guardians, and the role of Weaver Trust in dealing with reviews of such decisions to exclude. The procedure for arranging an Independent Review Panel is also covered in the Statutory Guidance.

2.2 Full details of the procedure to be followed are contained within the Statutory Guidance. However, in summary the following step will be taken (this list is not exhaustive):

2.2.1. If the decision is taken by the Headteacher to suspend or permanently exclude a pupil, the decision will be communicated to the pupil's parents/guardians as soon as possible. The decision will be confirmed in writing and will also explain why the pupil has been suspended or permanently excluded. Parents will be informed of the period of a suspension or, for a permanent exclusion, the fact that it is permanent.

2.2.2. Parents will be informed of their right to make representations about the suspension or permanent exclusion to the governing board (in line with the requirements set out in paragraphs 95 to 105 of the Statutory Guidance) and how the pupil may be involved in this.

2.2.3. Where there is a legal requirement for the governing board to consider the suspension or permanent exclusion, parents or the pupil if they are 18 years old, will be informed of their right to attend a meeting, to be represented at that meeting (at their own expense), and to bring a friend.

2.2.4. Parents should be made aware that during the first 5 School days that a child is suspended or permanently excluded that they must be kept out of public places during normal School hours unless there is a good reason (such as attending a medical appointment).

2.2.5. If alternative provision is being arranged, the following information will be included with this written notice where it can reasonably be found out within the timescale:

- 2.2.5.1. the start date for any provision of full-time education that has been arranged for the child during the suspension or permanent exclusion;
 - 2.2.5.2. the start and finish times of any such provision, including the times for morning and afternoon sessions where relevant;
 - 2.2.5.3. the address at which the provision will take place; and
 - 2.2.5.4. any information required by the pupil to identify the person they should report to on the first day.
- 2.2.6. Where this information on alternative provision is not reasonably ascertainable by the end of the afternoon session on the first day of the suspension or permanent exclusion, it must be provided without delay and no later than 48 hours before the provision is due to start. (unless alternative provision is to be provided before the sixth day of a suspension or permanent exclusion, in which case parents may consent to less than 48 hours' notice)

3. Suspension

- 3.1 A suspension is when a pupil is temporarily removed from the School. A pupil can be suspended for one or more fixed periods up to a maximum of 45 School days in one School year. This includes for part of the School day, such as lunch and break times. This is classed as a half day for the purpose of recording the amount of time a pupil is suspended.
- 3.2. Weaver Trust will set and mark work for the pupil during the first 5 days of the suspension. If a suspension is for longer than 5 days, Weaver Trust will arrange for alternative provision of full-time education from the 6th School day.
- 3.3. Weaver Trust will inform the Local Authority of all periods of suspension.
- 3.4. Weaver Trust will at all times follow the Statutory Guidance.

4. Permanent Exclusion

- 4.1 If Weaver Trust take the decision to permanently exclude a pupil it means that the pupil no longer attends the School. Weaver Trust will inform the Local Authority of the permanent exclusion. It will be for the pupil's Local Authority to arrange full time education at a new school from the 6th School day after the decision to permanently exclude the pupil.
- 4.2. The decision to exclude a pupil permanently will only be taken:
 - 4.2.1. in response to a serious breach or persistent breaches of the school's behaviour policy; and
 - 4.2.2. where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others such as staff or pupils in the school.
- 4.3. The Headteacher will take reasonable steps to ensure that work is set and marked for pupils during the first five school days where the pupil will not be attending alternative provision.
- 4.4. The Headteacher must remove a pupil from the School's admissions register once 15 School days have passed since the School's governing body has decided to uphold the decision to permanently exclude, and in the absence of any application for an independent review panel ("IRP") or parents stating in writing that they will not apply for an IRP.
- 4.5. Weaver Trust will at all times follow the Statutory Guidance.

5. SEND Pupils

- 5.1 Weaver Trust will at all times have regard to the Special Educational Need and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice 2015 and its legal obligations under Equality Act 2010.
- 5.2 Weaver Trust’s legal duties to pupils with disabilities or special educational needs remain in force during a suspension, for example, to make reasonable adjustments in how they support disabled pupils with learning and accessing any applicable review process.

Approved by:

Chair of Trust

CEO

Date:
