

Oasis Blakenhale Junior and Oasis Blakenhale Infants Exclusion Policy



Last Reviewed: July 2018

Next Review: July 2019

It is the policy of Oasis Blakenhale Junior and Oasis Blakenhale Infants Academy to try to deal with all behavioural issues in an active, positive way, employing a wide range of strategies, including those specifically designed to avoid such issues reaching the point of exclusion. (See Positive Behaviour Policy).

Purpose of this policy

This policy is designed to briefly outline the academy's approach to exclusions within the statutory framework as defined in the *Academy Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) Regulations 2012*. It outlines only where the academy applies its own additional guidance and policies, which complement and reinforce the statutory guidance, for purposes of clarity in the day-to-day operation of the academy.

Principles

1) Exclusion is a sanction used by the academy only in cases deemed as serious breaches of the Academy Behaviour Policy. A pupil may be at risk of exclusion from academy for:

- Verbal or physical assault of a pupil or adult;
- Persistent and repetitive disruption of lessons and other pupils' learning;
- Extreme misbehaviour which is deemed outside the remit of the normal range of sanctions.

2) A Fixed Term Exclusion from the academy can only be authorised by the Principal or one of the Deputy Principals acting on their behalf. If none are available to authorise the exclusion a decision should be deferred until the opportunity for authorisation is available.

3) In the case of a Permanent Exclusion this can only be authorised by the Principal and must only be done after consulting the Chair of Academy Council of the intention to impose this sanction, although the final decision rests with the Principal of the academy.

4) The academy seeks to reduce the number of incidents leading to exclusions by promoting a positive atmosphere of mutual respect and discipline within the academy.

5) The academy regularly monitors the number of Fixed Term Exclusions to ensure that no group of pupils is unfairly disadvantaged through their use and that any underlying needs of individuals are being fully met.

Notification of an Exclusion

1) Parents will be notified as soon as possible of the decision to exclude a pupil and the reason for the exclusion. This will be done on the day of the exclusion being authorised by either direct phone contact or a face-to-face meeting. A written confirmation of the reason(s) for the exclusion will be sent to parents the same day.

2) In the case of a Permanent Exclusion parents will be notified by the Principal in a face-to-face meeting.

3) A pupil who has been excluded will have the reason for his/her exclusion explained to them by a member of staff so that they understand the nature of their misbehaviour.

4) The academy will also work to put in place a programme for the pupil on his/her return. This will include input from staff at the academy, parents, if appropriate, and any other appropriate bodies e.g. Behaviour Support Services. Should it be decided for whatever reason that the matter needs to be put in the hands of another agency i.e. the incident leads to the discovery that there is a child protection issue, the academy will continue to monitor the situation and work closely with that agency. It is hoped that in most cases following an exclusion, the child will be able to return to academy and that further input will promote in him/her a more positive attitude and a subsequent improvement in behaviour.

5) The Chair of the academy council and relevant academy staff will be notified of all Fixed Term Exclusions the same day of the production of the exclusion letter, which they will receive a copy of; it will clearly outline the reasons for the exclusion.

Pupils Returning from a Fixed Term Exclusion

1) All pupils returning from a Fixed Term Exclusion are required to attend a reintegration meeting, accompanied by a parent. This meeting will seek to establish practical ways in which further exclusion can be avoided and behaviour modified to acceptable standards in partnership between pupil, parent and academy.

Permanent Exclusions

An academy will usually only permanently exclude a child as a last resort, after trying to improve the child's behaviour through other means. However, there are exceptional circumstances in which a Principal may decide to permanently exclude a pupil because of ongoing issues or even for a 'one-off' incident.

If your child has been permanently excluded, be aware that:

- the academy's governing body is required to review the Principal's decision and you may meet with them to explain your views on the exclusion
- if the governing body confirms the exclusion, you can appeal to an independent appeal panel organised by the local authority
- the academy must explain in a letter how to lodge an appeal
- the local authority must provide full-time education from the sixth day of a permanent exclusion

Appeals

All correspondence regarding an exclusion from the academy will inform parents of their right to appeal to the Governing Body against the decision to exclude. This procedure is clearly set out in the statutory guidance. The person who should be contacted to initiate an appeal is the Clerk to the academy council.

Relationship to other academy policies

The Exclusion Policy should be read in tandem with the academy's Behaviour Policy as well as other relevant academy policies, particularly the Inclusion Policy, Special Educational Needs Policy and the Equality & Diversity Policy. It also has a close inter-relationship with the Anti-Bullying Policy and Attendance Policy.

Monitoring and Review

- 1) The impact of this policy will be reviewed by the academy councils' Curriculum & Standards Committee

- 2) The Principal will provide the Committee with regular monitoring reports which will help it to evaluate the effectiveness of the policy and procedures.

- 3) The policy and procedures will be reviewed and amended in the light of such evaluation and in consultation with representatives of all key stakeholders.