

Burnt Tree Primary School

Exclusions Policy

If it becomes necessary to consider a child's exclusion from school, the process will be undertaken in full consultation with the LA and Chair of Governors or his/her nominee representing the Governing Body, and in accordance with LA guidelines and DFE regulations. Exclusion will not be undertaken lightly.

The Governing Body is aware of the Safeguarding, Equalities, PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education), Anti Bullying and Behaviour policies of the school and the relevant procedures related to these. It is also aware of the shared understanding and mutual support among members of the school teaching and non-teaching staff and the importance of positive home-school relationships.

All staff deal with day to day behaviour issues and use sanctions as/when necessary. If there are persistent or serious concerns the teacher will involve a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Before a decision is taken to exclude a child it is expected that the school will have:

1. Involved parents, guardians or persons with parental responsibility for the child, sought their co-operation and support at each stage and logged details of meetings which may need to be referred to at a later stage.
2. Ensured that every effort has been made to explain to parents exactly how their child's behaviour has fallen short of the standards expected in school.
3. Drawn the attention of parents or guardians, to the effect on their child's learning of disruptive behaviour and possible exclusion.
4. Actively involve the pastoral care and special needs staff within the school to ensure that the maximum amount of support and guidance had been given to the pupil over a period of time.
5. Ensured that full use had been made of the services of any staff (eg PPE Team) appointed to the staff to assist with pupils' behavioural difficulties.
6. Made sure that any medical conditions which may be affecting the pupil's behaviour had been considered.
7. Made the maximum use of assistance and guidance from any other relevant agencies within the Education Service and other agencies (eg Social Services) and taken account of their proposals.
8. Inform parents or guardians that exclusions may be necessary.

Fixed Term Exclusions

Examples of behaviour that may warrant a fixed term exclusion are as follows:-

Continued disruptions in lessons and school	1-3 days
Defiance	1-3 days
Verbal abuse to staff/pupils/others	1 day
Racial abuse to staff/pupils/others	1 day
Bullying – physical/verbal	1 day +
Physical abuse to staff/pupils/others	1 day +
Sexually inappropriate behaviour	To be determined
Theft	1-3 days
Vandalism	1-3 days
Extortion	1-3 days
Threatening behaviour	1-3 days
Maliciously setting off the fire alarm	1-3 days

This table is a guide. The number of days given to the pupil is at the discretion of the Head Teacher. Longer exclusions (including permanent exclusions) may be implemented depending on the severity of the offence. In the event of an exclusion being 5 days or more, the school must provide work to be completed at home.

Permanent Exclusion

As the decision to exclude a child permanently is a serious one, it will be the final step in a process for dealing with persistent and serious behaviour issues. It is an acknowledgment by the school that it has exhausted all available strategies for dealing with the child and will only be used as a last resort. These might include:

1. Persistent behaviour which endangers the child himself/herself or the safety of other children or staff.
2. Persistent physical aggression towards other children and staff.
3. Persistent incidents of threatening or bullying (without physical contact) eg verbal abuse, racist or sexual remarks.
4. Serious damage to school or property.
5. Persistent incidents of stealing.
6. Any other incidents of persistent anti-social behaviour which the Head Teacher and Governing Body feel are unacceptable
7. 7. Individual incidences of any of the above in combination resulting in persistent anti social behaviour.

There will however be exceptional circumstances where, in the head teacher's judgment, it is appropriate to permanently exclude a child for a first or 'one off' event. These might include:

1. Serious actual or threatening violence against another pupil or member of staff.
2. Sexual abuse or assault.
3. Supplying an illegal drug.
4. Carrying an offensive weapon.
5. Arson on the school ground.

The school will take advice from the police where a criminal offence has taken place as to whether or not to inform other agencies, eg Youth Offending Team, Social Workers etc

The Head Teacher will follow the guidelines regarding exclusion produced by the LEA.

The Head Teacher and Governing Body may amend/update this policy at any time to reflect changes in legislation, policy or procedure.

Chair of Governors		Date
Head Teacher		Date
Date of review: March 2017		