

Exclusion Policy for Stokesley School

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Stokesley School and Sixth Form Exclusion Policy



Statement of Intent

At Stokesley School, we understand that good behaviour and discipline are essential for promoting a high quality education.

Amongst other disciplinary sanctions, the school recognises that exclusion of pupils may be necessary where there has been a serious breach, or consistent breaches, of the school's Behaviour Policy. Excluding a pupil may also be required in instances where allowing the pupil to remain in school would be damaging to the education and welfare of themselves or others; in all cases, excluding pupils should only be used as a means of last resort.

The school has created this policy to ensure that exclusions are dealt with both fairly and lawfully, and in line with DfE statutory guidance.

Stokesley School is committed to supporting students to improve their behaviour and avoid exclusion in the first place. Stokesley School also employs a range of post-exclusion procedures to ensure students are integrated successfully back into school and reduce their risk of repeat exclusions.

1. Legal Framework

- 1.1. Our approach to exclusions has due regard to the related statutory legislation including, but not limited to, the following:
 - The Education Act 2002
 - The School Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) Regulations 2012
 - The Education and Inspections Act 2006
 - The Education Act 1996
 - The Education (Provision of Full-Time Education for Excluded Pupils) (England) Regulations
 2007
 - The European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR)
 - The Equality Act 2010
- 1.2. This policy also has due regard to statutory and non-statutory guidance, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - DfE (2017) 'Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England'
 - DfE (2016) 'Behaviour and discipline in schools'
 - DfE (2015) 'Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years'
 - DfE (2018) 'Mental health and behaviour in schools'
- 1.3. This policy will be implemented in conjunction with the following school policies and procedures:
 - Behaviour Policy
 - Anti-Bullying Policy
 - Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Policy
 - Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

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2. Grounds for Exclusion

- 2.1. The school will only exclude a pupil where it is absolutely necessary, and where all other possible disciplinary sanctions, as detailed in the school's Behaviour Policy, have failed to be successful.
- 2.2. The following examples of behaviour may underline the school's decision to exclude a pupil and are not exhaustive:
 - any incident which poses a risk to other pupils or members of staff, e.g. bringing a weapon onto the premises
 - any incidents which breach the law
 - persistent and severe bullying
 - verbal and physical abuse
 - constant disruption
 - a single, serious and major incident, e.g. serious assault on another individual leading to injury
- 2.3. Pupils can be excluded on a fixed-period basis, i.e. up to 45 school days within a year, or permanently. Similarly, pupils can be permanently excluded following a fixed-period exclusion, where further evidence is presented.
- 2.4. In all cases, the Headteacher will decide which exclusion period a pupil will be subject to, depending on what the circumstances warrant.

3. Department for Education Statutory Exclusion Guidance

- 3.1. The school will carry out all exclusions in-line with Statutory Exclusion Guidance (*DfE* (2017) 'Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England')
- 3.2. Further information can be found for the following headings via this link https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_dat-a/file/641418/20170831 Exclusion Stat guidance Web version.pdf
 - The Headteacher's power to exclude
 - The Headteacher's duty to inform all parties about an exclusion
 - The governing body's and LA's duty to arrange education for excluded pupils
 - The governing body's duty to consider an exclusion
 - The governing body's duty to remove an excluded pupil's name from the register
 - The academy trust's duty to arrange an independent review panel
 - The duties of independent review panel members, the clerk and the SEN expert in the conduct of an independent review panel
 - The governing body's duty to consider reinstatement following a review
 - Statutory guidance on police involvement and parallel criminal proceedings

4. Training Requirements

4.1.	Clerks will	have up-to-o	date und	erstandi	ng and	experi	ence of	exclus	ion gui	dance.

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