

Kaleidoscope School: Exclusion Policy

We believe you can!

This policy is to be read alongside The Kaleidoscope Behaviour Management Policy.

Kaleidoscope School Ethos

"At Kaleidoscope School, we value each individual child. We work closely with families and the wider network to understand the needs of the children at our school to ensure they are receiving the support they need to develop and make progress. We want all our children to feel a valued member of the school and wider community, we aim to help them be proud of who they are, to feel confident in their abilities, to build a healthy self-esteem, and to create life-long learners. Our school strives for all children, to develop compassion and respect for themselves, their community and the world".

Introduction

As outlined in our behaviour policy we have many steps in place where we strive to de-escalate behaviours before they become a concern, or an exclusion is considered. This will include consideration as to whether appropriate support and provision is in place to support any SEND that a pupil may have.

The Headteacher will discuss with the parent and pupil (where appropriate) the possibility of a fixed period or permanent exclusion if the pupil continues to engage in risky and dangerous behaviour towards themselves and/or towards others.

When a pupil has received an exclusion, putting in place a solid reintegration plan is our priority, we believe this process is key in achieving positive outcomes for the child. An individual behaviour support plan and/or Risk Assessment will be part of the reintegration process and will be written together with parents in the plan moving forward to support and overcome these concerning behaviours.

Types of Exclusion:

Temporary / Fixed-Term exclusion:

A temporary / fixed term exclusion is when a child is excluded from school and must remain home for a fixed amount of time. This should be for the shortest time necessary to ensure minimal disruption to the child's education, whilst being mindful of the seriousness of the breach of school policy.

Permanent exclusion:

A permanent exclusion is when a child is permanently excluded from school and not allowed to return. This is a very serious decision and the Headteacher will consult with senior leaders and the Chair of the Governing Body as soon as possible in such a case.

Reasons for exclusion:

- Serious breach of the school's rules or policies.
- Serious risk of harm

This can either be a very serious incident or the repetition of serious incidents.

Any exclusion will be at the decision of the Headteacher, usually in consultation with other members of the Senior Leadership Team (particularly if they were involved in investigating the incident). A decision to exclude a pupil, either internally for a fixed period, or permanently, is seen as a last resort by the school. The physical and emotional health of our children and staff is our primary concern.

To further inform the decision of whether exclusion of a child is the appropriate action, the Headteacher will also take account of any contributing factors that are identified after an incident of poor behaviour has occurred. For example, where it comes to light that the pupil has suffered bereavement, has mental health issues or has been subject to bullying.

Following a decision to exclude:

The Headteacher will:

- Ensure that there is sufficient recorded evidence to support the decision
- Explain the decision to the pupil if/when appropriate
- Contact the parents, explain the decision and ask that the child be collected
- Inform the Local Authority of the decision to exclude
- Send a letter to the parents confirming the reasons for the exclusion, whether it is a permanent or temporary exclusion; the length of the exclusion and any terms or conditions agreed for the pupil's return
- In cases of more than a day's exclusion, ensure that appropriate work is set and that arrangements are in place for it to be marked.
- Plan how to address the pupil's needs and reintegration back into school and their class
- Plan a meeting with parents and pupil on his/her return to discuss and agree a reintegration plan.
- For exclusions of 6 days or longer, the Headteacher is responsible for arranging full time educational provision: this will be in conjunction with the LA.

Procedure for appeal:

If parents wish to appeal the decision to exclude, the matter will be referred to the Governing Body and handled according to the appeal procedure. A copy of the Government Guidance on exclusion including details around the appeal process and the involvement of the Governing Body can be found here: Government Guidance