



English Martyrs Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy

‘Walking with Jesus – God’s love in action’

Exclusion Policy

This Policy Will Be Reviewed Every 3 Years

Date: Summer 2017

Date of next intended review: Summer 2020

Equality & Diversity

We have considered the impact on equality and diversity on this policy and judge the impact to be neutral.

MISSION STATEMENT

English Martyrs Catholic Primary School offers distinctive Catholic education within a caring Christian community where everyone feels loved and valued, confident and secure.

We believe that each person is precious and gifted, unique and loved by God. With Christ as our inspiration we work in partnership to create a challenging, effective and exciting learning environment where everyone is encouraged to embrace opportunity.

Learning and Teaching

We provide an exciting, creative and effective learning environment, recognising and responding to individual learning styles. We aim to help each child experience success and to embrace every opportunity by providing the highest standard of education and care.

Children take responsibility for and participate fully in their own learning.

Our curriculum will be both balanced and spiritually based and will fulfil all statutory requirements.

Catholic Life of the School

We recognise God in all aspects of our mission. Specifically, we will help children to develop their personal relationship with God. We will deliver high quality learning and teaching in religious education rooted in Catholic values and beliefs. We encourage respect for and understanding of other faiths and beliefs. The school environment will speak of Jesus Christ at the heart of our community. Children will be given opportunities to participate in creative and varied worship appropriate to their age and understanding.

We are an integral part of the parish and will play an active part in its life.

Relationships

We will help each member of the school community to recognise that we are all precious in God's eyes. We will show love and respect for each other. We will give to each other the affirmation we all need and will try to respond to each other's needs.

Parents

We will work to achieve a creative partnership between parents and school which recognises our different responsibilities in the education of the children.

We will communicate effectively with all parents. We will establish a bond of trust, building a partnership which nurtures the children's learning, spiritual development and pastoral care.

Community Cohesion

We will be an integral part of the local community. We will increase the children's awareness of wider world issues. We will develop their sense of responsibility for and involvement in both of these.

We will ensure that our community life witnesses our Christian values and beliefs in all that we do and say.

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Disability

We are a Catholic school. Through all our endeavours we aim to recognise the presence and power of Jesus Christ at the very centre of our existence. As we seek to fulfil the educational needs of the children we strive to live and act according to His will in all that we do and say.

We will help each member of the school community to recognise that we are all precious in God's eyes. We will show love and respect for each other. We will give to each other the affirmation we all need and will try to respond to each other's needs. We aim to help each child experience success and to reach their full potential by providing the highest possible standard of education.

At all times and in all areas of school life every reasonable measure will be taken to ensure that each member of this school community is enabled to participate as fully as possible, and achieve success and recognition appropriate to age, understanding and any disability.

Exclusion Policy

It is the policy of English Martyrs Catholic Primary School 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 Behaviour Policy).

Purpose of this policy

This policy is designed to briefly outline the school's approach to exclusions within the statutory framework as defined in the *The School Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) Regulations 2012*. It outlines only where the school 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 school.

Principles

- 1) Exclusion is a sanction used by the school only in cases deemed as serious breaches of the School Behaviour Policy. A student may be at risk of exclusion from school for:
 - Verbal or physical assault of a student or adult;
 - Persistent and repetitive disruption of lessons and other students' learning;
 - Extreme misbehaviour which is deemed outside the remit of the normal range of sanctions.
- 2) A Fixed Term Exclusion from the school can only be authorised by the Headteacher or the Deputy Headteacher acting on their behalf. If the Head or Deputy are not 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 Headteacher and must only be done after consulting the Chair of Governors of the intention to impose this sanction, although the final decision rests with the Headteacher of the school.
- 4) The school seeks to reduce the number of incidents leading to exclusions by promoting a positive atmosphere of mutual respect and discipline within the school.

Notification of an Exclusion

- 1) Parents will be notified as soon as possible of the decision to exclude a student 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 Headteacher in a face-to-face meeting.
- 3) A student 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 school will also work to put in place a programme for the pupil on his/her return. This will include input from staff at the school, parents, if appropriate, and any other appropriate bodies. 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 school 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 school and that further input will promote in him/her a more positive attitude and a subsequent improvement in behaviour.
- 5) The Chair of Governors, LA Inclusion Officer and relevant school 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.

Students Returning from a Fixed Term Exclusion

All students 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 student, parent and school.

Permanent Exclusions

The school 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 the Headteacher may decide to permanently exclude a pupil because of ongoing issues or even for a 'one-off' incident.

If a child has been permanently excluded, school will make the parents aware that:

- ☐ the school's governing body is required to review the Headteacher's decision and may meet with them to ascertain their views on the exclusion
- ☐ if the governing body confirms the exclusion, the parent has a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel organised by the local authority
- ☐ the school 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 school 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 Governors.

Relationship to other school policies

The Exclusion Policy should be read in tandem with the school's Behaviour Policy as well as other relevant school policies, such as the Anti-Bullying Policy and Attendance Policy.

Monitoring and Review

- 1) The impact of this policy will be reviewed by the governors' Pupils and Standards Committee
- 2) The Headteacher 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.

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Exclusion Policy

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body

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Date

Signed by the Headteacher

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Date