

# **Driffield Junior School**

## **EXCLUSIONS POLICY & PROCEDURES**

### **Introduction**

This policy must be read in connection with the school's policies relating to behaviour. These are designed to promote good behaviour and prevent inappropriate behaviour, setting out the standards of behaviour expected of pupils and the range of sanctions that can be imposed.

This policy relates to exclusion of pupils on disciplinary grounds, either for a fixed period or permanently. It is recognised that exclusion of a pupil is a serious step and will be used only in response to serious breaches of the school's discipline policies and, except in exceptional cases, only after a range of alternative strategies have been tried and proven to have failed.

Exclusions are governed by legislation and regulations made pursuant to that legislation (together the "Regulations") and these require the Headteacher and the governing body to have regard to guidance issued by the DCSF when making decisions on exclusions and administering the exclusion procedure. The current guidance is available at [www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/behaviour/exclusion/](http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/behaviour/exclusion/)

The Headteacher and governing body have determined that the principles and procedures set out in the Guidance should be followed unless there are exceptional circumstances. Where a situation arises which is not covered by the Guidance, the Headteacher and discipline committee of the governing body will be expected to make judgments in line with the Guidance and the principles set out in this policy.

### **Underlying Principles**

Our core aim at Driffield Junior School is to raise standards and promote the welfare and well-being of all pupils.

We are committed to being an inclusive school and providing every pupil with equality of opportunity and equal treatment irrespective of gender, age, ethnic and cultural background, religion/beliefs, sexual orientation and ensuring that all pupils:

- make good progress and achieve as well as they can
- are able to learn effectively without interference and disruption
- are treated respectfully
- reach their potential both academically and personally

### **Behaviour support strategies**

In addition to the school's behaviour policies, the Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that school has clear systems in place for identifying the need for early intervention and monitoring in the case of a pupil whose behaviour is causing concern, with the involvement of the SENCO and/or Pastoral Manager. If a pupil's behaviour continues to

cause concern, there will be pupil focussed intervention with appropriate strategies in place which can be reviewed, monitored and evaluated.

The Headteacher will consider referral to the Educational Psychologist and Behaviour Support Team of the LA and have discussions with the school's allocated Educational Psychologist and behaviour Support Teacher to identify support needed.

When a pupil's behaviour does not respond to the strategies put in place by the school, the school will arrange a Pastoral Support Plan meeting or equivalent. The school will invite the parent/carer, usually a representative from the EPBST and any other relevant professional working with the pupil or family. At the meeting, the school will develop an action plan with support from school staff, appropriate professionals, parents and the pupil. A review meeting will be arranged and the outcomes from the action plan monitored and revised as necessary.

### **Criteria for exclusion**

Exclusion will only be used in response to serious breaches of the school's behaviour policies and after the strategies set out in this policy, or other strategies deemed appropriate by the Headteacher, have been tried and proven to have failed.

It will also only be used where allowing the pupil to remain in school would be seriously detrimental to the education or welfare of other pupils, or of the pupil himself or herself and to the welfare of staff.

However, under the Guidance, it is recognised that there may be circumstances where, in the Headteacher's judgment, it is appropriate to permanently exclude a child for a first or one-off offence. These may include serious actual or threatened violence against another pupil or a member of staff.

### **Exclusion Procedures**

Only the Headteacher (or acting headteacher) has the power to exclude a pupil from school.

The Headteacher will follow the latest DfE Guidance (2017) and the principles set out in this policy when considering and exercising the power to exclude a pupil. In addition, the Headteacher may consult the LA for guidance.

*Latest DfE information (2017) regarding exclusion:*

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/641418/20170831\\_Exclusion\\_Stat\\_guidance\\_Web\\_version.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/641418/20170831_Exclusion_Stat_guidance_Web_version.pdf)

Where exclusions reach a certain level, as specified in the latest DfE Guidance, the Headteacher will notify the Chair of Governors as soon as possible.

The Headteacher will also give notification of all exclusions in her termly report to the governing body and, without specifying the identity of the child/children involved, will indicate whether there is a link to a particular group of children.

**Discipline committee**

The governing body will select three members of the governing body to act on the pupil discipline committee as the need arises to review certain Headteacher's exclusions decisions as set out in the Regulations.

***November 2018***

***Review date: November 2020***