

Fixed-Term & Permanent Exclusions Policy

Rationale

In order to ensure the safety and well-being of all students and staff at Raine's Foundation School as well as provide an educational environment where all students can achieve and succeed, it is essential that behaviour is of the highest standard, both within and outside of lessons. All staff, therefore, have a responsibility to promote positive behaviour, to encourage mutual respect and to instil self-discipline in students.

Where students do not respond positively to the standards and expectations of the school it may, on occasions, be necessary to impose a fair and reasonable sanction.

This policy details the guidelines and procedures relating specifically to a fixed-term or permanent exclusion. It complies fully with current statutory guidance on exclusion from maintained schools.

NB: The school will use a range of sanctions, short of exclusion. These will include extended mid-week and Saturday detentions where the focus will be on 'catch-up' and 'reparation'.

Introduction

Both fixed-term and permanent exclusions are serious sanctions and can only be authorised by the Headteacher.

Fixed term exclusions

The decision to exclude a student on a fixed-term basis will be made by the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher or member of the Senior Leadership Team in response to a serious threat to the safety and well-being of students or in response to a serious breach of the Raine's School behaviour Policy. Incidents considered to be a serious breach include:

- Serious actual or threatened violence towards another student
- Use of offensive language directed towards a member of staff
- Indecent behaviour
- Misuse of illegal drugs or substances (including those known as 'illegal' highs)
- Repeated acts of gross defiance
- Unacceptable behaviour which has previously been reported and where interventions have not been successful in modifying the student's behaviour.
- Behaviour which affects the safety of others (e.g. deliberately setting off the fire alarm)
- Theft
- Damage to the property of others or the school's facilities.

The above list is not exhaustive and each case must be considered on its own merits; a fixed-term should never be imposed as an automatic sanction.

When a decision to exclude has been agreed reference should be made to the School's 'Exclusion and Behaviour Continuum'.

Permanent Exclusions

The decision to exclude permanently is a serious one and will be considered by the Headteacher for the most serious breaches of the School's Behaviour Policy. In such cases, the school will also consider involving the police – such breaches include:

- Serious actual violence towards another student or a member of staff
- Selling / dealing in illegal drugs
- Bringing an offensive weapon into school e.g. a knife (such incidents must be reported to the police)
- Arson
- Repeated serious breaches of the school Behaviour Policy where previous fixed-term exclusions have not successfully modified the student's behaviour and have reached stage 10 on the Exclusion Continuum.

Again, the above list is not exhaustive but reflects the severity of the offences. A permanent exclusion is a last resort and will only be undertaken when all available strategies to modify a student's behaviour have been undertaken and where there is a serious threat to the safety and well-being of students at the school.