

Dealing With Unacceptable Behaviour

Whenever a child makes an accusation about another, or if more than one child is involved, time is always given to listen to both points of view.

The opportunity is given to pupils who have misbehaved to make amends through a verbal or written apology.

We have a staged approach when dealing with unacceptable behaviour. All staff (teaching and support) have the responsibility to deal with issues of misbehaviour with all children. Staff work hard to apply the sanctions fairly and consistently and to ensure that punishments are in proportion to the offence. To ensure these incidents recorded in class behaviour books are reviewed weekly by the Deputy Head for Inclusion. There are frequent discussions at senior leadership, teachers and support staff meetings where issues concerning behaviour are discussed.

Stage 1

A verbal warning (classroom or playground)

If the misbehaviour is serious or persistent then a verbal warning is not sufficient and the following sanctions are applied as appropriate

Stage 2

- A period of 'time out' to reflect on their conduct e.g. sitting in another part of the classroom/ standing on the line in the playground
- Loss of privileges (e.g. choosing partner or activity or monitor job)
- Loss of part of playtime/ lunchtime
- Walk with adult in the playground
- Complete unfinished work in own time

Stage 3

- Send to paired class for a short period of time with a blue slip (Y2 up). Key stages may also choose to implement their own system of recording the number of times a child has been sent to another class.
- If continued misbehaviour, the child is sent to the phase leader.
- Playground supervisors will speak to the class teacher or a member of SLT and complete a blue playground incident slip. This will count towards an orange slip

Stage 4

Orange slips are for repeated low level behaviour. If any of the above happen 3 or more times in a week an orange slip is given and the child will meet with a member of the Senior Leadership Team who will discuss the incident(s) with the child/ren. The child may be placed on report to a member of the Senior Leadership Team. This will generate immediate contact with parents or carers.

Red slips should be given to children who have gone through stages 1 - 3 or directly to children who have shown extreme misbehaviour. The child will go to a senior manager who will discuss the incident(s) with the child/ren.

The following might also apply:

- Loss of a number of playtimes or lunchtimes
- Put on report
- Decide on any restorative action
- Refer to school council
- Regularly follow up with positive reinforcement
- Share information with relevant staff
- Write a letter of apology to be shown to the relevant people
- Contact book between home and school
- Stay with a named adult in the playground
- Separation of offenders into different playgrounds

Stage 5 Internal Exclusion

If a child has gone through stages 1 – 4 internal exclusion may be imposed. The exclusion could be to another class on a temporary basis, and may continue during break periods.

Stage 6 Exclusion (Fixed term)

The decision to exclude a pupil is a serious one. It will usually be the final step in a process for dealing with disciplinary offences following a wide range of strategies that have been tried without success.

A decision to exclude a pupil should be taken only:

- a) in response to serious breaches of the school's behaviour policy; and
- b) if allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school.

Only the head teacher or deputy Head teacher in charge in the absence of the head teacher can exclude a child.

The regulations allow head teachers to exclude a pupil for one or more fixed periods not exceeding 45 school days in any one school year.

In all cases, work will be set and marked. The school has a duty to arrange suitable full time educational provision from and including the 6th consecutive day of the exclusion.

Parents are expected to attend a reintegration interview following any fixed period exclusion. Failure to attend may make it more likely that the court will impose a parenting order if the school or local authority apply for one.

Lunchtime exclusion

Pupils whose behaviour at lunchtime is disruptive may be excluded from the school premises for the duration of the lunchtime period. A lunchtime exclusion is a fixed period exclusion (equivalent to one half of a school day)

At the end of any exclusion a reintegration meeting with parents will be arranged.

Exclusion (Permanent)

A decision to exclude a child permanently is a serious one and is avoided through working closely with New Woodlands EBD school. It will usually be the final step in a process for dealing with disciplinary offences following a wide range of other strategies, which have been tried without success. It is an acknowledgement by the school that it has exhausted all available strategies for dealing with the child and will always be used as a last resort.

There might, however, be exceptional circumstances where, in the head teacher's judgment, it is appropriate to permanently exclude a child for a first or 'one off' offence. These might include:

- a) serious actual or threatened violence against another pupil or a member of staff
- b) sexual abuse or assault
- c) supplying an illegal drug
- d) carrying an offensive weapon

Depending on the type of exclusion, in most cases parents have the right to make representations to the governing body (or discipline committee). In all cases of permanent exclusion parents have the additional right to appeal to an independent appeal panel