



Exclusion Policy

Formally adopted by the Governing Board of:-	Denver V. C. Primary School
On:-	22nd September 2021
Chair of Governors:-	Amanda Dawson
Last updated:-	25th June 2020

Introduction

At Denver V. C. Primary School, we believe that it is essential for everybody to create a caring, supportive and positive ethos and environment for all. Children and adults thrive in a calm and purposeful learning community that respects and values every individual. We believe strongly that an emotionally literate school with a clear, ethos and policy of positive behaviour management helps support the social and emotional aspects of learning and behaviour patterns of our children and staff. Our school will exclude when children behave badly and disrupt teaching in order to help preserve the right to education of the other pupils. The school will follow the most recent Local Authority guidance on exclusions.

Types of exclusion

There are two types of exclusion:

- Fixed term exclusion, which can range from half a day to a maximum of 45 school days in a school year (a child can also be excluded for lunchtimes)
- Permanent

Fixed term exclusion

This means that a pupil is not allowed in school for a specified number of days because they have breached the school's behaviour policy.

Pupils who misbehave at lunchtime may be excluded for lunchtime only. Each lunchtime exclusion counts as half a day.

An individual pupil may not be given more than 45 days fixed term exclusions in any one academic school year.

When a pupil has a fixed term exclusion, the school must set and mark work for the first five days of the exclusion and from the sixth day must provide a full-time education provision.

Exclusion for more than five days

If any exclusion is for more than five school days, parents/carers can request a meeting of the school to review the exclusion. The Governors must agree to this request and must meet within 50 school days.

Exclusion for more than 15 school days

When exclusions total over 15 school days in any one term, the Governors must arrange a meeting to consider the exclusion within 15 school days, to which the parents/carers and a LA representative must be invited.

Permanent exclusion

A pupil is permanently excluded for a serious breach or persistent breaches of the school's behaviour policy and if their being in school would harm the education or welfare of themselves or others.

Permanent exclusion should only be used as a last resort and it means that the pupil would no longer be allowed to attend the school.

When a pupil is permanently excluded, the school must provide work for the first five days of the exclusion and the LA is responsible for the education from the sixth school day.

Who can exclude?

Only the Headteacher has the power to exclude a pupil.

Reasons for exclusion

- All exclusions must be for disciplinary reasons only
- All schools must have a behaviour policy setting out what the school rules are
- All exclusions must be lawful, reasonable and fair
- Permanent exclusion should only be used as a last resort

Behaviour outside school

Pupils can be excluded for behaviour outside school but this should be in line with the school's behaviour policy. This will include behaviour on school trips, when in uniform or on the way to and from school and behaviour which may bring the school into dispute.

Pupil Voice

Excluded pupils will be encouraged to participate in all stages of the exclusion process, where appropriate, taking into account their age and understanding.

Exclusion of Vulnerable Pupils

The Headteacher will, as far as possible, avoid excluding permanently any pupil with an EHCP or a Looked after Child. If the head teacher is considering the permanent exclusion of a pupil in these categories they will discuss it with the local authority, highlighting their concerns about the placement of the pupil in the school and the possible need for additional support or an alternative placement. Looked After pupils should have provision from the first day of any exclusion.

The Duty of the Headteacher

Once the Headteacher makes the decision to exclude the pupil, the parent will be informed as soon as possible, ideally by telephone followed up by a letter.

The Headteacher will explain

- The reason(s) for the exclusion
- If it is a fixed term exclusion the length of time the exclusion is for
- The parents/carers right to make representation to the Governors
- The arrangements made for setting and marking work during the exclusion and for full-time provision if the exclusion is for more than five school days

The Headteacher will then notify the governing body and the local authority if:

- it is a permanent exclusion (including any decision to make a fixed term exclusion permanent);
- an exclusion for more than five school days (or more than ten lunchtimes) in any one term;
- any exclusion which results in the pupil missing a National Curriculum Test (SATs)

For all other exclusions the Headteacher will notify the local authority once a term. The Headteacher will decide if a reintegration meeting is necessary following the period of exclusion. If it is, we will make reasonable efforts to arrange the meeting for a time that is convenient for parents and give notice of the time, date and location. The pupil would normally attend for at least part of the interview, depending on their age and understanding.

Where an excluded pupil is of compulsory school age the Headteacher will notify the parents in writing that for the first five days of an exclusion the parent is legally required to ensure that their child is not present in a public place during school hours without reasonable justification and that the parent may be prosecuted or given a fixed penalty notice if they fail to do so.

Parents – Challenging Exclusions

The letter sent to parents following the exclusion will notify them what to do if they disagree with the decision. Parents can ask the school's governing body to overturn the exclusion if either:

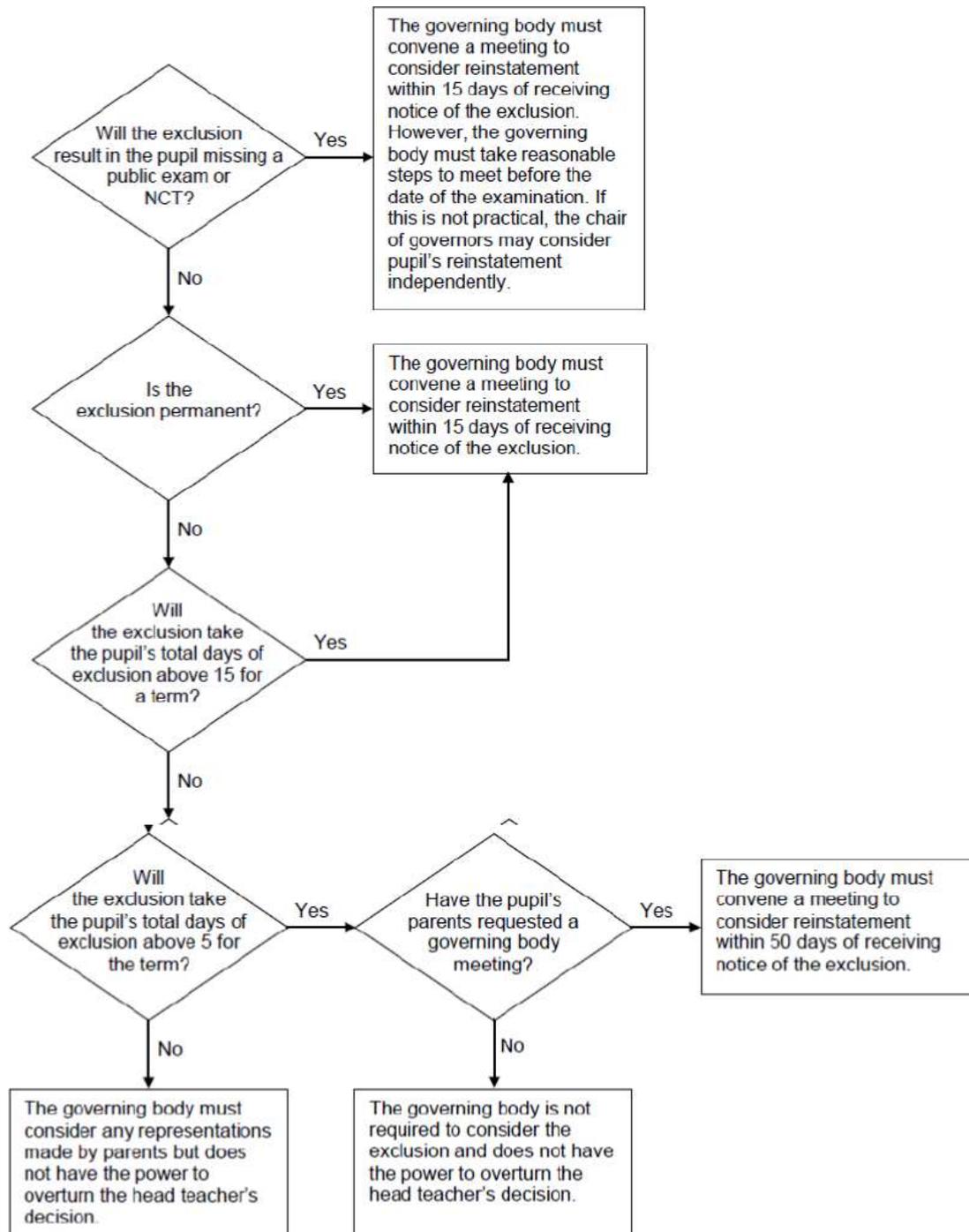
- the pupil has been excluded for more than 5 days
- the exclusion means they'll miss a national curriculum test

The parents will be invited to a meeting with a panel of 3 school governors within 15 school days.

If the exclusion is for 5 days or fewer, parents can still ask the governing body to hear their views but the governors can't overturn the Headteacher's decision.

The Duty of the Governing Body

Annex A – A summary of the governing body’s duties to review the head teacher’s exclusion decision



The governing body may delegate its functions to consider an exclusion to a designated sub-committee. References to days mean 'school days'.



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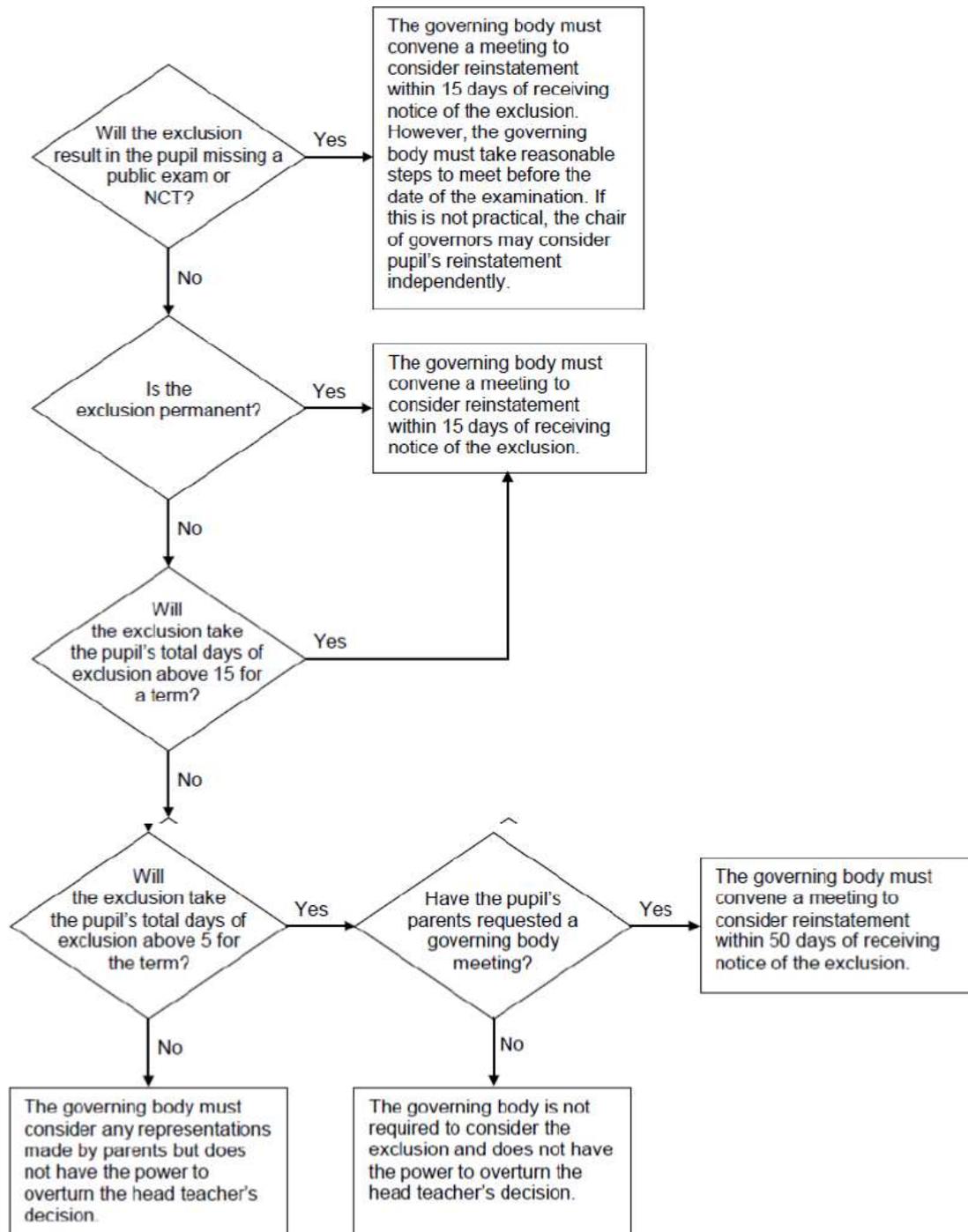
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