

## POLICY ON EXCLUSIONS

Background: "Improving behaviour and attendance: guidance on exclusion from schools and Pupil Referral Units" (DCFS September 2008)

1. A decision to exclude a student will only be taken
  - In response to serious breaches of the Academy's behaviour policy; and
  - If allowing the student to remain in the Academy would seriously harm the education or welfare of the student or others in the Academy

Examples of serious breaches of the Academy's behaviour policy are

- Physical or verbal abuse against another student
  - Physical or verbal abuse against a member of staff
  - A series of incidents which affect the education of other students at the Academy (see scale 4 and above on school sanctions policy)
2. Only the Principal can exclude a student.
  3. Fixed term exclusions will normally be from 1 to 5 days.
  4. Students' behaviour outside Academy business is subject to the Academy's Behaviour Policy and will be dealt with as if it had taken place in the Academy. For behaviour outside the Academy but not on Academy business, the Principal may exclude a student if there is a clear link between that behaviour and maintaining good discipline among the student body as a whole. This will be a matter for the Principal. Students' behaviour in the immediate vicinity of the Academy, or on a journey to and from the Academy can be grounds for exclusion.
  5. A decision to exclude a student permanently is a serious one and will be the last resort. It will usually be the final step in a long process of dealing with persistently disruptive behaviour following a wide range of other strategies which have been tried without success. There will be circumstances, however, where the Principal's judgement will be that it is necessary to permanently exclude a student for a first or "one off" offence. Examples of this type of behaviour would include
    - Serious actual or threatened violence against another student or member of staff
    - Sexual abuse or assault
    - Supplying any illegal drug
    - Carrying an offensive weapon

These examples are not exhaustive, but indicate the severity of such offences and the fact that such behaviour can affect the discipline and wellbeing of the Academy community (see scale 8 of Academy Sanctions Policy).

6. If a student is excluded, parents will receive a full explanation of the incident(s) leading to the exclusion and will be informed of their rights.
7. The Chair of the Governors' Advisory Group and Calderdale LA will be informed of all exclusions.

Signed Chair of Governors:	Date:
Print Name:	
Signed Principal:	Date:
Print Name	