

MARLBOROUGH ROAD ACADEMY

POLICY ON EXCLUSION

BACKGROUND

It is the policy of Marlborough Road Academy to try to deal with all behavioural issues in an active, positive way, employing a wide range of strategies, including those specifically designed to avoid such issues reaching the point of exclusion.

PURPOSE

This policy is designed to briefly outline the Academy's approach to exclusions within the statutory framework. It should be read in conjunction with the DfE Statutory guidance for those with legal responsibilities in relation to exclusion "*Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England*" as published by the DfE in September 2017. It outlines only where the Academy applies its own additional guidance and policies, which complement and reinforce the statutory guidance.

PRINCIPLES

Exclusion is a sanction used by the Academy only in cases deemed as serious breaches of the Behaviour Policy.

A pupil may be at risk of exclusion from school for:

- Verbal or physical assault of a pupil or adult;
- Persistent and repetitive disruption of lessons and other pupils' learning;
- Extreme misbehaviour which is deemed outside the remit of the normal range of sanctions.

A Fixed Term Exclusion from the Academy can only be authorised by the Principal or one of the Vice Principals acting on her behalf. If none are available to authorise the exclusion a decision will be deferred until the opportunity for authorisation is available.

In the case of a Permanent Exclusion this can only be authorised by the Principal and will only be done in consultation with the executive principal, CEO and ,where appropriate, following the advice of the local authority inclusion officer although the final decision rests with the Principal.

The Academy seeks to reduce the number of incidents leading to exclusions by promoting a positive atmosphere of mutual respect and discipline within the Academy.

The Academy regularly monitors the number of fixed term exclusions to ensure that no group of pupils is unfairly disadvantaged through their use and that any underlying needs of individuals are being fully met.

Notification of an Exclusion

- (a) Parents/carers will be notified as soon as possible of the decision to exclude a pupil and the reason for the exclusion. This will be done on the day of the exclusion being authorised by either direct phone contact or a face-to-face meeting. A written confirmation of the reason(s) for the exclusion will be sent to parents/carers the same day.
- (b) In the case of a permanent exclusion, parents/carers will be notified by the Principal in a face-to-face meeting.
- (c) A pupil who has been excluded will have the reason for his/her exclusion explained to them by a member of staff so that they understand the nature of their misbehaviour.
- (d) The Academy will endeavour to put in place a programme for the pupil on his/her return. This will include input from staff at the Academy, parents/carers, if appropriate, and any other local authority support services e.g. Educational Psychologist, Learning support service etc. Should

it be decided for whatever reason that the matter needs to be put in the hands of another agency i.e. the incident leads to the discovery that there is a child protection issue, the Academy will continue to monitor the situation and work closely with that agency. It is hoped that in most cases following an exclusion, the child will be able to return to Academy and that further input will promote in him/her a more positive attitude and a subsequent improvement in behaviour.

- (e) The CEO, Chair of Governors, Local Authority Inclusion Officer and relevant Academy staff will be notified of all fixed term exclusions the same day of the production of the exclusion letter, which they will receive a copy of; it will clearly outline the reasons for the exclusion.

Pupils Returning from a Fixed Term Exclusion

All pupils returning from a fixed term exclusion are required to attend a reintegration meeting, accompanied by a parent/carer. This meeting will seek to establish practical ways in which further exclusion can be avoided and behaviour modified to acceptable standards in partnership between pupil, parent/carer and the Academy.

Permanent Exclusions

Marlborough Road Academy will usually only permanently exclude a pupil as a last resort, after trying to improve the pupil's behaviour through other means. However, there are exceptional circumstances in which the Principal may decide to permanently exclude a pupil because of ongoing issues or a serious 'one-off' incident.

If a child has been permanently excluded:

- the Academy's governing body is required to review the Principal's decision and the parent/carer may meet with them to explain your views on the exclusion
- if the governing body confirms the exclusion, the parent/carer can appeal to an independent appeal panel organised by the local authority
- the Academy must explain in a letter how to lodge an appeal
- the local authority must provide full-time education from the sixth day of a permanent exclusion

APPEALS

Parents will be informed of their right to appeal to an Independent Review Panel against the decision to exclude. This procedure is clearly set out in the statutory guidance. The person who should be contacted to initiate an appeal is the Clerk to the Governors.

CONCLUSION

The Principal will provide the Governing Body and Salford Academy Trust with regular monitoring reports which will help evaluate the effectiveness of the policy and procedures. The Exclusion Policy should be read alongside the school's Behaviour Policy as well as other relevant Academy policies, particularly the SEN and Inclusion Policy, and the Equalities/Cohesion Policy.

This Policy also has a close inter-relationship with the Attendance Policy.

Parents/carers may refer to relevant sources of free and impartial information. In Salford this includes:

- The Salford website <https://www.salford.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/info-for-parents-students-and-teachers/school-attendance-behaviour-and-welfare/exclusion-from-school/>
- The Coram Children's Legal Centre <http://www.childrenslegalcentre.com>.

- The guidance from the Department for Education, entitled “Exclusion from Maintained Schools, Academies and Pupil Referral Units in England” www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion
- Salford Information and Advice Support Services www.siassnetwork.org.uk

DOCUMENT STATUS

Version	Date	Action	Approved by Governing Body	
			Signature	Date
2	September 2017	Rewritten (JL)		
3				
4				

This Policy has been impact assessed to ensure that it does not have an adverse effect on race, gender or disability equality