

Colyton Grammar School EXCLUSION POLICY

Background

In a school that is committed to high standards of teaching and learning, and with an ethos that promotes a culture that values achievement and respect for others, exclusions should be rare.

Principles

- Fixed Term Exclusions should be used only after the appropriateness of other alternative sanctions have been fully considered
- Permanent exclusion will be a last resort and where a student is persistently involved, unacceptable behaviour options such as a 'managed' move within the East Devon Behaviour Partnership should first be investigated
- Whilst exclusion may serve as a deterrent to others the process will be managed with due consideration of the offender's needs
- After Fixed Term Exclusion a period of support and monitoring will serve to reduce the likelihood of further problems

The Right to Exclude

- Only the Headteacher (or a Deputy acting in that role) may exclude. The Headteacher will usually consult with other relevant staff before making a decision.

Grounds for Exclusion

Exclusion, whether fixed term or permanent may be used for any of the following (either in school or travelling to school):

- verbal abuse of staff
- verbal abuse of students
- physical abuse of staff
- physical abuse of students
- indecent behaviour or sexual abuse
- damage to property
- misuse of drugs or other substances
- supplying an illegal drug
- theft
- carrying a dangerous weapon
- arson
- serious breach of the school's Acceptable Use of Computers' Policy
- behaviour which results in serious disruption to the learning of others
- unacceptable behaviour which is repeated after the use of other sanctions

This is not an exhaustive list and there may be other situations where the headteacher makes the judgement that exclusion is an appropriate sanction.

Exclusion Procedure

- Most exclusions are for a fixed duration of 3 days or less
- Where an exclusion exceeds 5 days the school will consult with members of the East Devon Partnership to arrange education at another school
- Where possible parents or carers will be contacted as quickly as possible. A letter will be sent explaining:

- i) the dates of the exclusion
 - ii) the reasons for the decision
 - iii) arrangements to support the student's study during absence
 - iv) any reintegration proposals
 - v) the right to make representation to the Discipline Committee
- A reintegration meeting will be held with a senior member of the Pastoral Staff or a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Following this meeting the student will usually be placed on a support and monitoring plan
 - The Local Authority will be informed of the exclusion

Permanent Exclusion

The decision to exclude permanently is a serious one and will usually be in response to one of two situations:

1. Permanent Exclusion may be the final step in a concerted process for dealing with disciplinary offences following the unsuccessful use of other strategies, both within school, and where appropriate, with external agencies. It is an acknowledgement that all potentially productive strategies have been exhausted and that the student is either disrupting the learning of others or significantly eroding the ethos of the school
2. In exceptional circumstances reflecting the seriousness of the offence a permanent exclusion may be given. Such circumstances could include serious actual or threatened violence to another member of the school community, supplying an illegal drug, possessing an offensive weapon, arson, serious malicious damage or any other offence that the Headteacher considers to be of such seriousness that it significantly affects the discipline and well being of the school.