



EXCLUSIONS POLICY MOSSBOURNE RIVERSIDE ACADEMY

1. Policy

1.1 Mossbourne Riverside Academy is committed to inclusion. However, the Governing Body recognises that from time to time situations may arise when the Principal may feel that exclusion is an appropriate response to a situation, or action, on the part of the pupil.

1.2 The decision to exclude any pupil will always be lawful, reasonable and fair.

2. Scope

2.1 This Policy covers all pupils of Mossbourne Riverside Academy.

3. Key Principles

3.1 The decision to exclude a pupil may be taken in the following circumstances:

- In response to a serious or persistent breaches of the Academy Behaviour Policy
- If allowing the pupil to remain in the Academy would prejudice the education or welfare of the pupil, fellow pupils, or staff in the Academy

3.2 Exclusion is an extreme sanction and is only available to be administered by The Principal (or in his/her absence, the Vice Principal). Exclusion is not an appropriate sanction for minor incidents but may be used for:-

- Verbal abuse to staff and others;
- Verbal abuse to pupil;
- Physical abuse to, or attacks on, staff;
- Physical abuse to, or attacks on, a fellow pupil;
- Indecent behaviour;
- Damage to property;
- Misuse/trading of illegal drugs;
- Misuse/trading of other substances;
- Theft;
- Unacceptable behaviour which has previously been reported, and for which the Academy sanctions and other interventions have not been successful in modifying the pupil's behaviour;
- Behaviour which threatens the smooth running of the Academy ;
- A refusal to follow the instruction of a member of staff;

Title:	Exclusion Policy	Last Review Date:	May 2022
		Next Review:	May 2023

- Being in possession of illegal substances in Academy uniform or on the Academy site;
- Bringing weapons (or an item for which the intended purpose is that of a weapon) of any description into the Academy.

The list above is neither exhaustive nor is it prescriptive. Each pupil's behaviour will be judged individually and the context will always be taken into account.

Most exclusions are for a fixed term and of short duration (usually between one and five days).

4. Procedures

4.1 Fixed Term Exclusion

- The Governors have established arrangements to review fixed term exclusions, for pupils on roll, which would lead to a pupil being excluded for over five days but not over 15 days in a term where a parent has expressed a wish to make representations.
- Following exclusion, parents are contacted immediately, where possible.
- A letter is sent with the pupil, where possible, and by post giving details of the exclusion and the date the exclusion ends.
- Parents have a right to make representations to the Governing Body, as directed in the letter.
- A reinstatement meeting will be held following the expiry of the fixed term exclusion.
- It is the Academy's practice remove the pupil from their class upon return from exclusion in order that reintegration is closely monitored.
- A Behaviour Support Plan or Child Centred Review may be considered as a support strategy to help pupils modify the behaviour which had led to fixed term exclusions and the targets will be agreed with the Academy, pupil and parents

4.2 Permanent Exclusion

- The decision to exclude a pupil permanently is a serious one. It will usually be the formal step in a process for dealing with disciplinary offences subsequent to a wide range of other strategies, which have been used without success. It is an acknowledgement that the incident is a single episode whereby a serious breach of the Academy Behaviour Policy has occurred, and/or all available strategies have been exhausted and/or the permanent exclusion is a last resort.
- Permanent Exclusion might follow (for example) persistent and defiant misbehaviour including harassment (which would include bullying).
- Permanent Exclusion is the probable result of the possession and/or use of an illegal drugs or a weapon on Academy premises, in line with the Academy's behaviour Policy.
- There are exceptional circumstances where it is appropriate to permanently exclude a pupil for a first or 'one off' offence.

These might include:

- Serious actual or threatened violence against another pupil or a member of staff;
- Sexual abuse or assault;
- Possessing or supplying an illegal drug either in Academy uniform or on the Academy site;

Title:	Exclusion Policy	Last Review Date:	May 2022
		Next Review:	May 2023

- Carrying an offensive weapon or item which could be construed as a weapon and is carried for such a purpose;
- Using an item as a weapon;
- Arson

The Academy may consider police involvement for any of the above offences, this can only be authorised by the Principal.

These instances are not exhaustive but indicate the severity of such offences and the fact that such behaviour seriously affects the discipline and well-being of the Academy including the health and safety of all staff and fellow pupils.

4.3 Factors to be Considered Before Exclusion

Exclusion will not be imposed in the heat of the moment unless there is an immediate threat to the safety of others in the Academy or the pupil concerned. Before deciding whether to exclude a pupil either permanently or for a fixed period the Principal will:-

- Ensure appropriate investigations have been carried out;
- Consider all the evidence available to support the allegations taking into account the Academy's Behaviour and Equal Opportunity policies and plans;
- If appropriate, allow the pupil to give his / her version of events – though the Academy recognises that it may not always be appropriate;
- Check whether the incident may have been produced for example by harassment (this includes bullying, racial or sexual) and
- Consult with others, if necessary.

If the Principal is satisfied that *on the balance of probabilities* that the pupil did what he or she is alleged to have done, Exclusion or Permanent Exclusion will be the outcome.

4.4 Alternatives to Exclusion

The Academy does use alternative strategies to exclusion and these are included in the Behaviour Policy.

4.5 Behaviour Outside The Academy

Examples of when the Academy has the same expectations of pupil behaviour as when they are on the premises include when pupils are on Academy business including:

- Away on Academy trips;
- Academy sports fixtures;
- When a pupil is wearing the Academy uniform;

The above list is not exhaustive.

Bad behaviour on such occasions will be dealt with as if it had taken place in the Academy.

Title:	Exclusion Policy	Last Review Date:	May 2022
		Next Review:	May 2023



For behaviour outside the Academy, when the pupil is not on Academy business, the Principal will exclude a pupil if there is a clear link between behaviour and the maintenance of good behaviour and discipline among the pupil body as a whole. If the pupil's behaviour in the immediate vicinity of the Academy or on a journey to and from the Academy is poor and meets the criteria for exclusion then the Principal may decide to exclude, especially where it brings the Academy's reputation into disrepute.

Title:	Exclusion Policy	Last Review Date:	May 2022
		Next Review:	May 2023