



NEW PARK ACADEMY

SUSPENSION AND EXCLUSION POLICY

FIRST CREATED: MARCH 2010 – EDITION 1

EDITION NO.	REVIEW DATE:	FGB APPROVAL DATE:
		25/06/2010
2	SEPT 2012	13/11/2012
3	OCTOBER 2015	
4	JANUARY 2017	02/02/2017
5	SEPT 2017	19/10/17
6	JULY 2018	10/10/18
7	JULY/SEP 2019	REVIEWED SEPT 2019 – NO CHANGES
8	SEP 2020	REVIEWED SEPT 2020 – NO CHANGES
9	OCT 2022	MINOR CHANGES (IN RELATION TO SUSPENSION RATHER THAN FTE)
10	NOVEMBER 2023	NO CHANGES
11	NOVEMBER 2024	NO CHANGES

<i>Policy Agreed</i>	September 2020
<i>To be reviewed</i>	OCTOBER 2025
<i>Owner</i>	ALMUT BEVER-WARREN
<i>Signed</i>	
<i>Designation</i>	HEADTEACHER



Introduction

This policy supports New Park Academy's mission statement to '*Believe and Succeed*'

This policy recognises that it is the Headteacher's responsibility to:

- Promote good behaviour and discipline on the part of the Academy's pupils
- Secure an orderly and safe environment for pupils and staff

This policy recognises that in order to meet these responsibilities, the Headteacher may have to suspend pupils, whether for a fixed term or exclude on a permanent basis, and seeks to clarify the circumstances under which this might take place and the procedures to be followed.

Aim

Every effort is made to ensure the continuous attendance of pupils at all times. New Park endeavours to always consider multiple alternative strategies to school suspensions and exclusion in line with Salford Guidance from the Virtual Team for CFC, wherever possible.

This policy aims to ensure that the suspension/exclusion of pupils operates in a fair and reasonable manner.



Objectives

The objectives of the policy are to:

- Ensure a shared understanding of the suspensions/exclusion of pupils
- To identify the circumstances under which a pupil may be suspended/excluded
- To identify the circumstances under which a pupil should not be suspended / excluded
- Ensure a consistent approach to the suspension/exclusion of pupils

Implementation

Only the Headteacher or, in her absence, a senior member of staff acting with her authority, can suspend/exclude a pupil from the Academy.

Criteria for the suspension/exclusion of pupils from Academy

Pupils may be suspended for a fixed term period as a consequence of behaviours such as:

- deliberate physical assault on another pupil
- deliberate physical assault of a member of staff
- persistent refusal to comply with the Academy's behaviour system
- excessive damage to property
- dealing illegal substances in Academy or on Academy transport
- extreme racial/sexual/homophobic abuse within Academy or in the Academy neighbourhood
- extreme bullying
- extreme threatening behaviour and/or verbal abuse towards staff or other pupils

The exact length of period of suspension will depend upon the severity of the incident/s. The final responsibility for determining the period of suspensions rests with the Headteacher. New Park Academy is aware that, in line with current legislation, the pupil will need to be educated on alternative premises from day 6 of the suspension. Until then, it is parental responsibility to work with the pupil, using materials supplied to the pupil's home. However, it is an exception that a suspension of this length will be given to any pupil as a negative consequence. New Park Academy will always aim to work on a preventative rather than a reactive basis, and other professionals should have already been involved, using Family Assessments to identify appropriate interventions to support the young person and his/her family/carers in helping him/her access education in an appropriate manner.

Nevertheless, it has to be recognized that further incidents may occur in spite of interventions put in place and this may lead to a further suspension.

Persistently repeated offences or significant accumulation of repeated offences may lead to a review of the placement to determine whether NP Academy can still meet the needs of the young person or, in extreme cases, a permanent exclusion.



The members of the School Advisory Board are informed of all suspensions and exclusions and consulted.

Permanent Exclusions

In excluding a pupil permanently, New Park is acknowledging that it has exhausted all available strategies for dealing with that pupil. Hence it should normally be only used as a last resort.

There are, however, circumstances where a pupil **may be** permanently excluded for a first or one off offence. These include:

- Where there has been serious actual or threatened violence against another pupil or member of staff
- Sexual misconduct
- Supplying an illegal drug. *(This should take account of how far the pupil might have been vulnerable to pressure and / or bullying from peers and/ or others. However, where it is clear that drugs have been supplied for profit or repeated use has taken place on the premises, then this constitutes both a serious breach of school rules and a danger to other pupils and as such justifies a permanent exclusion if all other preventative approaches have been exhausted).*
- Carrying an offensive weapon

The decision to exclude either permanently or suspend for a fixed term should be based upon:

- A consideration of all the relevant facts and such evidence as may be available to support the allegations made, taking into account the Academy's behaviour and equal opportunities policies.
- A review of the pupil's version of events
- Checking whether the incident may have been provoked, for example by racial or sexual or homophobic harassment.
- A consultation with other relevant parties

A pupil should not be suspended or excluded

for:

- Minor incidents such as failure to do homework
- Poor academic performance
- Lateness or truancy
- Pregnancy
- As a result of the behaviour of parents of his/ her, for example as a result of parental abuse or violence against members of the Academy community

A pupil may be suspended or excluded for behaviour outside school if there is a clear link between the misconduct in question and the promotion of good behaviour and discipline in the part of the Academy's pupils. This can include inappropriate use of social media.



Once a decision has been made to suspend or exclude a pupil, the Headteacher is responsible for:

- Deciding the nature of the suspension/exclusion
- The period of any suspension
- Informing the parents/ carers and the LA, in writing, of the period of the suspension / exclusion; reasons for suspension / exclusion; any arrangements to hold a meeting regarding the suspension/exclusion
- Informing in writing, the relevant Children's Services Department, where appropriate, of the suspension/exclusion, the period of the suspension, reasons for suspension/exclusion; any arrangements to hold a meeting regarding the suspension/exclusion
- Making arrangements to ensure the pupil can continue his/ her education at home including the setting and marking of work.

Note:

Where the breaking of school rules has led to the involvement of the police, the Headteacher will need to consider the period of any exclusion in terms of:

1. How far a return to school whilst investigations are on-going could affect the effectiveness and outcomes of the investigation
2. How far a return to school either during or after ongoing investigations could affect the education of other pupils

Where it is believed that an early return could impact on either (1) or (2) above, the pupil should remain at home with school making arrangements for the pupil's education to continue.

Monitoring and evaluation

The success of the policy will be monitored and evaluated through a termly review of the number of exclusions, their nature and the reason for their imposition. The review will be undertaken by the Senior Leadership Team and the Advisory Board.