

Exclusion of School Pupils in Hesley Group Schools

1 Outcomes

- 1.1 Hesley Group is committed to providing high quality educational opportunities for the children and young people we support. Children and young people will not be inappropriately or unfairly excluded from school.
- 1.2 Any exclusion and termination of placement contracts will only be undertaken in a manner which meet the tenets of natural justice.
- 1.3 Head/General Managers and Operations Director know how to take appropriate steps to deal with children and young people whose needs cannot be met at a particular time and whose continued presence would be detrimental to the safety or welfare of themselves or others.

2 Policy

- 2.1 This policy only applies to children and young people who are pupils attending Hesley Group schools that are registered with the Department for Education (DfE) as schools.
- 2.2 Children and young people must only be excluded in extreme circumstances and, generally, only where all available strategies have proved unsuccessful.
- 2.3 The use of exclusion should never come as a “surprise” to the family, the relevant education authority or social services team because discussion, review, joint planning and problem solving will be implemented prior to this measure becoming necessary.
- 2.4 Hesley Group policy in respect of exclusions is not governed by, but has regard to the 2012 DfE Guidance. This means that children and young people shall only be excluded on either a permanent basis, or for a fixed term not exceeding 45 days in any one school year, in accordance with the guidelines and statutory requirements laid down by the DfE.
- 2.5 An Appeals Procedure shall be in place to enable the placing authority to appeal against a permanent exclusion.

- 2.6 There shall be no right of appeal against fixed term exclusions.
- 2.7 Head/General Managers must consult and liaise with the Operations Director and the Chief Executive Officer at any time when circumstances arise in relation to any child or young person that could eventually lead to an exclusion. They must continue such consultation at all stages before a decision to exclude someone, either for a fixed term or permanently, is made. To avoid short notice developments and to allow as much time as possible for pre-planning by all concerned the Head/General Manager shall, in consultation with the Operations Director and Chief Executive Officer, involve the placing authority and parents in the matter at the earliest stage possible.
- 2.8 Immediately following any exclusion the Head/General Manager and Operations Director shall provide confirmation of and full information regarding the exclusion and any proposal to terminate a placement contract, in writing, to the parents, placing authorities and the Chief Executive Officer.
- 2.9 The school does not have a disciplinary policy for pupils because of the diverse and complex needs of each child. It is clear that Hesley Group would not use exclusion as a sanction because of these factors. However, any measures taken toward exclusion would be in the interests of the health, safety and well being of pupils, employees and members of the public, and should be supported by evidence from the multi disciplinary team as well as reports from education and support teams.
- 2.10 The school must inform parents/guardians every year whether or not there have been any exclusion of children/young people during the previous twelve months.