

STONY DEAN SCHOOL

EXCLUSION POLICY

The school will follow the DfE and LA Guidelines (Revised September 2010).

At Stony Dean the focus is on creating a respectful climate for learning where sanctions and strategies are implemented consistently by all school staff. Pupils are consistently rewarded for good behaviour.

Any exclusion will follow the guidelines. Every set of circumstances is different and many factors will be taken into account before a final decision for exclusion is taken by the Head teacher.

“Exclusion is an important sanction for pupils involved in serious or persistent misbehaviour. We believe this sanction must be retained to protect the interests of other pupils and staff.” Steer Report 2005

Alternatives to exclusion

(from the Guidelines).

A number of different alternatives may be available to head teachers in response to a serious breach of behaviour policy:

a) **Restorative justice**, which enables the offender to redress the harm that has been done to a 'victim', and enables all parties with a stake in the outcome to participate fully in the process. This has been used successfully to resolve situations that could otherwise have resulted in exclusion. All professionals involved in the process need to be thoroughly involved and this can only work with the consent of all parties.

b) **Mediation** through a third party, usually a trained mediator, is another approach that may lead to a satisfactory outcome, particularly where there has been conflict between two parties e.g. a pupil and teacher, or two pupils.

c) **Internal exclusion** which can be used to defuse situations that occur in school that require a pupil to be removed from class but may not require removal from the school premises. The internal exclusion could be to a designated area within the school, with appropriate support and supervision, or to another class on a temporary basis, and may continue during break periods. Internal exclusion should be for the shortest time possible and should be subject to review. Learning Support Units should not be used to provide internal exclusion.

d) **Managed move** to another school to enable the pupil to have a fresh start in a new school. The head teacher may ask another head teacher to admit the pupil. This should only be done with the full knowledge and cooperation of all the parties involved, including the parents, governors and the LA, and in circumstances where it is in the best interests of the pupil concerned. In order to fully address the pupil's difficulties it may be helpful for schools within an area to have a protocol in place and to have a full support package in place for the pupil. Parents should never be pressured into removing their child from the school under threat of a permanent exclusion, nor should pupils' names be deleted from the school roll on disciplinary grounds unless the formal permanent exclusion procedures set out in statute and in this guidance have been adhered to (see section on unofficial exclusion in **Part 2**: paragraph 22 of this guidance).