



# Camp School Exclusions Policy

Approved by Governing Body: January 2023

Next review: January 2025

Camp Primary and Nursery School follow the statutory guidance on Exclusions, as set out by the DfE (September 2022) through the document 'Suspension and Permanent Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement.'

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1101498/Suspension\\_and\\_Permanent\\_Exclusion\\_from\\_maintained\\_schools\\_academies\\_and\\_pupil\\_referral\\_units\\_in\\_England\\_including\\_pupil\\_movement.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1101498/Suspension_and_Permanent_Exclusion_from_maintained_schools_academies_and_pupil_referral_units_in_England_including_pupil_movement.pdf)

We also follow the Hertfordshire Children's Services Exclusion non-statutory guidance supplement September 2017 - Hertfordshire County Council guidelines on exclusion from maintained schools, Academies and Education Support Centres (ESCs).

## Purpose

1. To ensure that the Suspension and Exclusions process is applied fairly and consistently and is understood by Governors, Staff and Parents/Carers.

## Guidelines

1. Only the Head Teacher or acting Head Teacher can suspend or permanently exclude a pupil from school.
2. A decision to suspend or permanently exclude a pupil will be taken only in response to a serious breach or persistent breaches of the schools behaviour policy.
3. Suspension and permanent exclusion should be considered in the light of long-term effect on the excluded pupil.
4. We have a preventative approach to reduce the likelihood of behaviour escalating to the point of suspension or permanent exclusion. This approach is detailed in the school's Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy.
5. It is important to note that we have a duty of care to **all** pupils; therefore, if despite support, behaviours impact adversely on the safety and wellbeing of other pupils or adults the Head Teacher and Governors reserve the right to suspend or permanently exclude pupils who put others at risk.

## Types of Exclusion:

- **Lunchtime Suspensions:** In the event of 'unacceptable' behaviour patterns being exclusive to playtimes, where the Head Teacher is confident that the safety of other children, and the quality of their education are not compromised during lesson times, then the school shall initially consider lunchtime suspensions, where parents / carers are responsible for collecting the child at the beginning of a lunch period and returning the child to school for the afternoon session. In such instances the school

will make appropriate arrangements for morning play, with regard to the safety and welfare of other children and staff.

- **Fixed term Suspensions:** A child may be sent home for a fixed period of time. On their return to school the child and their parents will be invited to a reintegration meeting with the Head Teacher.
- **Permanent Exclusion:** The Head Teacher can permanently exclude a pupil on disciplinary grounds. This will only be used as a last resort and in response to a serious breach or persistent breaches of our behaviour policy and where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in the school. In such a situation the Local Authority and DfE guidelines are followed.

Any period of suspension where a child is asked to leave the school site must be formally recorded and parents will be informed in writing of the period of suspension and the reasons for it.

The school will make every effort to ensure that any suspension is short term and that a resolution can be agreed. However, an individual would only return to school in circumstances where the Head Teacher and Governors were confident that the education and safety of other children and /or staff would not be in any way compromised. Every effort is made to ensure that positive resolutions are agreed, reducing the risk of further incidents or suspensions.

### **Appeals Procedures**

The parents / carers of any child have the right to appeal the decision of the Head Teacher and Chair of Governors in suspending or permanently excluding their child. The Appeals Committee would follow procedures as set out by Herts County. The Head Teacher and Chair of Governors shall not be allowed to sit on the Appeals Committee or endeavour to influence the decisions made by the Appeals Committee. The Head Teacher would, however, submit a report showing the recorded evidence that informed the decision to suspend or permanently exclude a pupil.

### **Conclusion**

Camp Primary and Nursery School adhere to DfE statutory guidance and Herts County recommendations when considering any possible suspension or permanent exclusion. It is the intention of this policy to reaffirm suspension or permanent exclusion as an ultimate sanction within the school's Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy.