



**HOLLICKWOOD**  
school

# Hollickwood Primary School

## Suspensions and Exclusions Policy

<b>Date Ratified</b>	<b>To be ratified September 2024</b>	<b>Next Review</b>	<b>September 2025</b>
<b>Governor Link</b>	<b>Kirstie Stroud</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Full Governing Body</b>
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## **Contents:**

### Statement of intent

1. Legal framework
2. Roles and responsibilities
3. Grounds for suspension or exclusion
4. The head teacher's power to suspend or exclude
5. Factors to consider when suspending or excluding a pupil
6. Preventative measures
7. Duty to inform parents
8. Duty to inform the governing board and LA
9. Duty to inform social workers and the virtual school head (VSH)
10. Arranging education for suspended and excluded pupils
11. Considering suspensions and exclusions
12. Reaching a decision
13. Notification of considered suspensions and exclusions
14. Removing excluded pupils from the school register
15. Independent review panel
16. Appointing a SEND expert
17. The role of a SEND expert
18. Appointing a clerk
19. The role of the clerk
20. The duties of the independent review panel
21. Conducting governing board meetings or independent review panels via remote access
22. Reconsidering reinstatement following a review
23. Criminal investigations
24. Training requirements
25. Using data
26. Monitoring and review

### **Appendix**

Flowchart for reviewing the head teacher's suspension or exclusion decision

## **Statement of Intent**

At Hollickwood, we believe that through a culture of support and guidance, which is fair and restorative, pupils will develop and reach their fullest potential. Our belief is that every child should be given unconditional positive regard. We have developed a behaviour policy which places relationships as the cornerstone for pupils to thrive. Our approach encourages nurture, respect and empathy even when a child is presenting with behaviours that feel challenging. We promote a sense of community and belonging. Through research, evidence and trauma-informed practice, staff are able to guide and support pupils effectively. We recognise that in order to fully meet the needs of pupils, of which many present with complex needs, it is a necessity that our school is attuned, attachment-friendly and nurturing.

Where serious unacceptable behaviour persists, or where there is a single very serious incident, children may be excluded. These may be fixed term exclusions or a permanent exclusion. Permanent exclusion is only ever considered when all other options have been tried and have been unsuccessful.

Amongst other disciplinary sanctions, the school recognises that suspension and exclusion of pupils may be necessary where there has been a serious breach, or consistent breaches, of the school's Behaviour Policy. Suspending or excluding a pupil may also be required in instances where allowing the pupil to remain in school would be damaging to the education and welfare of themselves or others; in all cases, suspending or excluding pupils will only be used as a means of last resort.

The school has created this policy to clearly define the legal responsibilities of the headteacher, governing board and LA when responding to pupil suspensions and exclusions, to ensure that they are dealt with both fairly and lawfully, and in line with DfE statutory guidance. This policy also aims to secure a pupil's right to an education despite having been suspended or excluded, by ensuring that appropriate arrangements are in place.

A "suspension" is defined as the temporary removal of a pupil from the school for behaviour management purposes. A pupil may be suspended for one or more fixed periods, up to a maximum of 45 school days in a single academic year. A suspension does not have to be for a continuous period.

An "exclusion" is defined as the permanent removal of a pupil from the school, in response to a serious breach or persistent breaches of the school's Behaviour Policy, and where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupils or staff in the school.