

What should I do next?

When you receive the letter of notification of exclusion:

Talk with your child

Check the exclusion details

Attend the governors discipline committee hearing– you must notify the clerk to the governors in advance (as per notification letter) if you wish to attend. .

If you decide not to appeal or the exclusion is upheld you will then be contacted by The Social Inclusion Team to discuss an alternative school for your child.

Will my child continue to receive education?

The initial letter from school will explain the arrangements for continuing your child's education

The school must provide work for your child to do at home, though it is your responsibility to ensure that this work is collected, completed and returned.

Remember your son/daughter is not permitted to enter school premises at this time.

Further information and advice

Local Authority advice at :

Behaviour Support service

The Social Inclusion Team

The Teacher's Centre

Rydley Street

Bolton

Tel: 01204 332281

The Advisory Centre for Education (ACE).
Tel : 0207 704 9822 or

www.ace-ed.org.uk

SEN and Disability Tribunal (SENDIST).

SENDIST, Mowden Hall, Staindrop Road,
Darlington, DL3 9DN

Or you may wish to source local independent advice at

Parent Partnership

Nichola Pearcey on

01204 848722



Permanent Exclusions from School

A parent's/carers guide

Exclusion can be a difficult and worrying time for you and your child.

This leaflet will guide you through the exclusion process.

What is a permanent exclusion?

An exclusion is when the Head Teacher whilst carrying out the duty to maintain good order of a school exercises his/her right to punish a child for a serious offence, which falls outside the boundaries of acceptable behaviour, as outlined in the schools behaviour policy.

The law allows for two types of exclusion:

- A fixed period exclusion when a date is set for the pupil to return, and
- A permanent exclusion

A decision to permanently exclude a pupil should be taken only:

- a) In response to serious breaches of the school's behaviour policy
- b) If allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others in school.

Only the Head Teacher (or in the absence of the Head Teacher the acting head teacher) can exclude a pupil.

The decision to exclude?

A decision to exclude a child permanently is a serious one. It will usually be the final step in a process for dealing with disciplinary offences following a wide range of other strategies, which have been tried without success. It is an acknowledgement by the school that it has exhausted all available strategies for dealing with the child and should normally be used as a last resort.

How do I find out if my child has been permanently excluded?

Within one day the Head Teacher should send a letter of 'written notification' of permanent exclusion which must include:

- That the exclusion is permanent
- The reasons for the exclusion
- Your right to state your case (make representations) to governors and how to go about this.

Following notification the discipline committee must meet between the 6th and 15th school day after the start of the exclusion to consider the exclusion

What decisions do the governors make?

Governing bodies must review all permanent exclusions from their school. This will consist, usually, of three or five governors, which make up a discipline committee. They must decide whether or not to reinstate the pupil, if appropriate, or whether the head teachers decision to exclude the pupil was justified.

If the committee decides your child should return to school they will set a date for reinstatement.

If they, on the other hand decide to uphold the permanent exclusion they will inform you immediately in writing, giving reasons for their decision.

You will be informed of your right to appeal to an independent appeal panel and how to go about this. You have 15 school days to write back and say that you wish to appeal.

If you decide not to appeal or the appeals panel upholds the permanent exclusion the pupil's name will be taken off roll. The decision of the Independent Appeal committee is final and binding on all parties. This means that the pupil cannot return to that school.
