



EXCLUSION POLICY

Policy Version			
Date	Document Version	Document Revision History	Document Author/Reviser
April 2016	1.0		Mark Edmundson

The Dunham Trust believes it makes a significant contribution in transforming children's life chances. Our aim and commitment is to transform schools into sustainable learning academy communities.

“We aim to ensure that, for everyone involved, excellence and equity become and remain a reality”

“They come this way only once so we should litter their pathways with quality experiences”

We believe that we are able to help our academies and their young people to aspire to and achieve success. To do this, we are committed to ensuring that every child and young person has a pathway to succeed that:

- gives the best possible start in life
- equips with creativity, spirit and confidence
- enables individuals to appreciate life and equip for further learning
- supports the child in becoming a responsible citizen
- ensures continued success in his/her future and contributes to the local community

Our aims for ‘Improvement’ are designed to ensure all academies are consistently benchmarked against key improvement priorities. This framework will ensure effective progress across the Trust, whilst at the same time, leaving space for autonomy at the school level. It will:

- focus efforts on what really matters, i.e. our vision, principles and commitment to the children, young people, families and communities that we serve.
- provide a flexible approach to improvement that meets the needs of each Academy. This will involve a commitment to immediate improvement in each individual context, professional development and a collaborative approach that engages with improvement projects designed to build capacity, an approach that is responsive, reflective and sustainable.
- focus on outcomes, understanding that these are not negotiable. We are committed to a no-excuses culture. In achieving these outcomes, all will focus on individual responsibility and collective accountability for success

The Trust has a responsibility to ensure the success of each academy by allowing every pupil to maximise his/her potential. As an academy sponsor there will be an expectation for joint working across individual academies. The Trust is committed to high quality academy improvement activity, networking and development and research. Equally, the promotion of sport, outdoor education and the creative arts will be important in the development of pupil self-esteem and building learning skills.

Exclusion Policy

Each child and situation will be treated individually. We will always work with all the staff and parents to ensure the best interests of the child, only as a last resort will exclusion be considered.

Fixed Term Exclusion and Permanent Exclusions

We expect all members of the school community to act in a reasonable, supportive and respectful manner in ensuring the well-being of our community. Where this is compromised by the conduct of a child or parent exclusion will be considered.

The Dunham Trust will apply its behaviour policies in a consistent, rigorous and non-discriminatory way and all areas of application of these policies will be monitored routinely. The following forms of exclusion are available as an ultimate sanction

- On-site Exclusion – removal from usual activities but not from the school site, such an exclusion will last up to a full day. An internal exclusion may be the initial part of a fixed term exclusion while the school awaits the collection of the child by parents.
- Fixed Term Exclusion – the child is removed from school for set period of time at the discretion of the school.
- Permanent Exclusion – the child is removed from the school roll. This will be preceded by a fixed term exclusion to ensure proper investigation and consideration of events.

Parents are also subject to the above conditions, relating to fixed term and permanent exclusion, where the welfare other members of the school community is threatened by the conduct of a parent. Sanctions applied to a parent may include

- On site - Access to the site and school events is only permitted under certain conditions.
- Fixed Term - Barring the parent from the site and school events for a fixed period
- Permanent – Permanent barring from the school site. Removal of children from the school roll

The school will communicate with the police where it is deemed necessary for the welfare of the community.

The power to exclude a pupil can only be exercised by the Executive Principal or the Head of School. If the Head excludes a pupil, the parents are informed immediately, giving reasons for the exclusion. The Head/Executive Principal will discuss all exclusions with a member of the governance of The Dunham Trust. A member of the governance committee will monitor exclusions and ensure that the school policy is administered fairly and consistently.

Exclusion may be the result of repeated failure to abide by the school's expectations of good conduct, or to respect for its aims and ethos. However, exclusion may also result from a single serious incident, which may include the following:

- Threatened or committed violence or abusive language against other members of the school community
- Distribution of illegal drugs
- Bringing into school objects which may cause harm to other members of the community or pornographic literature or images.
- Stealing from the school, a member of staff or a fellow pupil
- Malicious or disruptive behaviour, including open defiance of authority
- Engaging in sustained bullying of other pupils
- Making allegations against a member of the school community which are confirmed to be malicious

- Malicious use of social media

Learning Set

When a pupil is excluded for more than one day, work should be set by the school within a reasonable time-scale and this should be returned to the school when the exclusion is over. If a child is excluded at the end of a school day, then it may not be possible to arrange for work to be set until the following morning.

A pupil can be excluded for up to 10 continuous days on a fixed term basis. On the 6th continuous day, the school is responsible for providing education for the pupil, which could be at another local school, the pupil referral unit or by providing home education.

Every pupil has a right to confidentiality during the consideration of a possible exclusion; an investigation will be undertaken in the strictest confidence and the details only disclosed to those who need to know. This does not preclude the conclusion of an investigation being made public to the school community on completion of an investigation, if the person being investigated has been found to be culpable. If the School decides (after completing the investigation or as a result of new evidence and further investigation) that it is necessary to extend a fixed term temporary exclusion or to convert it into a permanent exclusion, the Head will write again to the parent with the reasons for this decision.

Where exclusion has taken place the parents will be notified immediately, followed by a letter. This will detail the following:

- Length of exclusion and whether it is temporary or permanent.
- Reasons for the exclusion.
- Parents' right to make representation to the Head. If they are not satisfied with the Head's decision, stage 3 of the school's complaints procedure (the panel hearing) will be used as a template for an appeal against a permanent exclusion. During an appeal process, an exclusion will remain in place, except at the discretion of the Head.
- The child will be given work to do at home for the first five days of a fixed- term exclusion.

Managed Move

In cases where the Head of School and parents agree that the progress of the pupil has been unsatisfactory and the pupil is unwilling or unable to profit from the educational opportunities offered, or if a parents failure to engage in strategies implemented by the school are resulting in a continuing pattern of poor behaviour or lack of improvement in behaviour, the Head of School may consult with the Local Authority and propose a managed move to another school. This is not exclusion and in such cases the Head of School may assist the parents in placing the pupil in another school.

Monitoring and review

The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the Heads of School, who will make an annual report to the Local Governing Body of that school.

Approval by The Dunham Trust

Signed: _____
Date: _____
Review date: _____

This policy, signed by a Director on behalf of the Dunham Trust, is held centrally on the One Drive.

End of policy statement