

EXCLUSIONS POLICY

Name of Policy:	Exclusions Policy
Date of Policy:	June 2014 reviewed 2015-16 and 2018
Policy written by:	Siân Maddrell
Governor committee:	Strategy Committee
Date Policy to be reviewed:	2020

Aim

The Grey Coat Hospital is committed to encouraging good behaviour in an atmosphere of mutual respect and shared values, including the commitment to support and protect all members of its community. The school has set a target of no permanent exclusions in any academic year in recognition of the seriousness of exclusion and its effects on the student concerned and her/his family. Within the context of this ethos, however, it may be necessary to exclude a student where there has been a serious breach of school discipline and/or there is a risk of serious harm to the education or welfare of the student or others in the school. Exclusions will be for a fixed period, or, in very serious cases, permanent.

The School

- Will follow DFE guidance;
- Is likely to exclude in cases where there has been a serious breach of the school's behaviour policy;
- Will not exclude for minor incidents such as not doing homework; nor for such issues as: poor academic performance; truancy; lateness; breaching school uniform policy; behaviour of parents;
- Will provide work for an excluded student for the first five days of an exclusion; the student's local authority will provide full time education from the sixth day of the exclusion onwards

The Headteacher

- Will listen to both sides of the story before taking a decision to exclude;
- May refer to Westminster agencies when considering whether to exclude, in particular when permanent exclusion is a possibility;
- Will send a letter informing parents of the decision to exclude, the reason for exclusion, the rights of parents to appeal and length of exclusion;
- Will not exclude in the heat of the moment unless there is an immediate risk to the students or others.

An Exclusion

- Will normally begin on the next school day after the incident

An Excluded student

- Will not come onto the school site during the period of exclusion without prior arrangement with the Headteacher;
- Will attend a meeting with the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher or other senior member of staff before returning to the school.

The Governors (The Discipline Committee)

- Will convene the committee of three to five governors plus a clerk to consider cases where the exclusion is permanent or for a period of 15 days or more in a term, or when a parent requests a hearing;
- Will ensure that statements and any documents available to the Committee are distributed (in translation where appropriate) to the parents prior to the meeting and arrange for an interpreter to be present where appropriate.
- Will explain the running order of the meeting before it begins;
- May decide to re-instate the student in cases where the exclusion is permanent or for a period of 15 days or more in a term;
- May decide to place more information on the student's file

The Chair of the Pupil Discipline Committee has the right, acting on his/her own, to consider and decide on whether to reinstate a pupil who is due to take a public examination during an exclusion.

Students with SEN

- The Headteacher will consider whether students on the SEN register have been given appropriate help before taking the decision to exclude.

Reviewed 2016