



Stanley Infant and Junior and Camp Education School

Exclusion Policy

It is the policy of the Infant Junior School and Camp Education (IJS&CE) to deal with all behavioural issues in an active, positive way, employing a wide range of strategies, including those specifically designed to avoid such issues reaching the point of exclusion (see Behaviour Policy).

Purpose of the Policy

This policy and procedure document will outline the school's approach to exclusions within the statutory framework as provided by Schedule 4 of the Falkland Islands Education Regulations Schedule of the Education Ordinance, 1989. The policy will give a clear account for staff, parents, and pupils of the circumstances within which the Executive Headteacher or Principal will use his/her powers to exclude and the procedures that will be followed in exercising those powers.

Principles

Exclusion is a sanction used by the school only in cases deemed as serious breaches of the Behaviour Policy. The school seeks to reduce the number of incidents leading to exclusions by promoting a positive atmosphere of mutual respect and discipline within the school.

The school regularly monitors the number of exclusions to ensure that no group of students is unfairly disadvantaged through their use and that any underlying needs of individuals are being fully met.

Policy

Fixed Term Exclusions

While always having regard to the circumstances of a particular case the Executive Headteacher/ Principal will be likely to use fixed term exclusions in the following cases: (this is not an exhaustive list, but gives an indication of the circumstances where it will be used)

- persistent indiscipline or disruptive behaviour in class:
 - persistent or repetitive disruption of other students' learning
 - sustained challenge to the authority of a member of staff
 - persistent defiance of a school rule

- an assault or other criminal behaviour in class:
 - bullying, harassment or abuse (including on the grounds of gender, race, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation)
 - acts of vandalism
 - verbal or physical assault

The length of the exclusion will be proportionate to the severity of the offence. Parents will be informed when a fixed term exclusion is applied.

Internal Exclusions

When a pupil is regarded as presenting a threat to the good order and discipline of the school, an internal exclusion may apply. A space independent of the classroom will be

provided to allow the pupil to complete their work in isolation whilst being supervised by a member of staff. Parents will be informed when an internal exclusion is applied.

Modifying an Exclusion

An exclusion may be extended where:

- it was necessary to exclude the pupil in order to complete any investigation freely.
Note: it is essential that if new evidence comes to light the excluded pupil is given the opportunity to respond to it before the exclusion is extended.
- the pupil has also been reported to the police and the result of that investigation provides additional evidence to the school.

Investigation

- Where an investigation is necessary, it will not be undertaken by the person who will decide on the exclusion, unless circumstances dictate this.
- Witness statements will be recorded, signed and dated.
- Anonymity will not be promised unless this is the only way to obtain a statement. The statement will be signed and dated in the normal way but the name will be withheld.
- The person accused of any offence will be given the opportunity to give his/her own side of the story and respond to statements made by others.

Decision

- The decision to exclude will only be taken by the Executive Headteacher / Principal or, in their absence, the member deputising for the Principal. The power to exclude cannot be delegated.
- The decision will be taken on all the evidence available at the time.
- The decision will be taken on the balance of probability. Where the offence alleged is a criminal act, the standard of proof will be that it is 'distinctly more probable than not' that the pupil committed the act.

Informing Parents

The parents and pupil will be informed as soon as possible. The Director of Education will also be informed. An entry to record this exclusion will be recorded on SIMS.

Work for Excluded Students

The class teacher responsible for the excluded pupil will provide work for the pupil to complete during their period of exclusion at home with their parents or carers. Parents and carers are responsible for ensuring that the excluded pupil completes the work set and is supervised appropriately during the exclusion period.

Full-Time Education

The Executive Headteacher / Principal will make provision for the full-time education of pupils from the sixth day of a fixed term exclusion.

Reintegration

Students returning to school after exclusion will be subject to a reintegration procedure organised by the Executive Headteacher / Principal or member of the Senior Leadership Team. This will involve the parents and a member of the leadership team. The parent and student will be invited to a meeting to discuss this reintegration.

A pupil who is returned to school, but who is regarded as presenting a threat to the good order and discipline of the school or to members of the school community may be kept in isolation from the remainder of the school community until such time as it is thought appropriate to make a phased return into the main body of the school.

Legal framework

TITLE 29.1.1 EDUCATION REGULATIONS

(S.R. & O. No. 32 OF 1989) [DATE OF COMMENCEMENT: 1ST JANUARY 1990]

ARRANGEMENT OF PROVISIONS

SCHEDULE Number 4

4 Exclusion of pupils

(1) No child shall be excluded from attendance in the class of a Government school in which he is a pupil unless the head teacher has authorised him to be excluded from it.

(2) A pupil may only be excluded from class because-

- (a) of persistent indiscipline or disruptive behaviour in class;
- (b) he is suffering from some communicable disease and it would be prejudicial to the health of the other pupils in that class for him for the time being to attend in that class;
- (c) he is seriously unclean in person or clothing;
- (d) of an assault or other criminal behaviour in class.

(3) Whenever a pupil is, for any reason, excluded from class the head teacher or the Director shall as soon as possible cause the pupil's parents or guardian or one of them to be notified of that exclusion, the reason or reasons for his exclusion, and the duration of such exclusion.