

Combe St Nicholas C of E VA Primary School

Name of Policy	School Exclusion Policy	
Approved by GB - Date	January 2024	
Next Review Date	January 2026	
Committee Responsible	Full GB	

This policy should be taken as part of the overall strategy of the school and operated within the context of our vision, aims and values as a Church of England School.

"That they may have life, life in all its fullness"

John: Chapter 10 Verse 10

Christians should be committed to reconciling people to God. In Corinthians 5:18-20 Paul tells us that God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. He calls us 'Christ's ambassadors' to share the message of reconciliation with others. This is our call to witness to those who are not yet reconciled to God through the cross. In the Bible, reconciliation with others accompanies reconciliation with God. Our response to God's saving grace is expressed through our response to others.

References: The CSN Pathway Mission Statement
Behaviour - A Policy for living Well Together

Introduction

At Combe St Nicholas CE VA Primary School our behaviour policy lists the conduct required of pupils. The Headteacher may decide that the behaviour has given rise to such concern that a fixed term exclusion is the best recourse. This behaviour may have taken place in or outside school. Exclusion of a pupil allows for a cooling off period, a time to re-set boundaries and has a salutary effect on the school community in general, giving the message that some behaviours will be addressed most seriously. The overriding aim of the school is always to do whatever is best for the child and in supporting him/her, and the parents, to address any issues that have led to the behaviour. In very rare cases it may be the considered judgement of the Headteacher that a pupil finds this school not conducive to their educational development and a permanent exclusion will be made. In these cases, it will have been decided that a move to another school will be in the child's best interest.

At **all** times, we believe that it is the poor behaviour that we reject and not the child.

Types of exclusion

There are two kinds of exclusion – fixed period (suspended) and permanent (expelled).

Fixed period exclusion

A fixed period exclusion is where a child is temporarily removed from school. They can only be removed for up to 45 school days in one school year, even if they have changed school.

If a child has been excluded for a fixed period, the school will set and mark work for the first five school days.

If the exclusion is longer than five school days, the school will arrange suitable full-time education from the sixth school day (at a pupil referral unit, for instance).

Permanent exclusion

Permanent exclusion means the child is expelled. The local authority will arrange education from the sixth school day.

Alternative education

Combe St Nicholas Primary School or the local authority will inform the parent/carer about any alternative education they arrange. It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to make sure the child attends.

Challenging the exclusion

The school will send a letter to the parent/carer explaining what to do if they disagree with the exclusion.

The parent/carer can ask the school's governing body to overturn the exclusion if either:

- the child has been excluded for more than five days

- the exclusion means the child will miss a national curriculum test

If the child is excluded for five days or fewer the parent/carer can still, ask the governors to hear their views but they cannot overturn the decision of the Headteacher.

Challenging permanent exclusion

The parents/carers will be invited to a review meeting with the school governors if the child has been permanently excluded. This will happen within fifteen school days.

If the governors do not overturn the exclusion the parent/carer may ask for a review by the local authority.

Returning to school following a fixed term exclusion

On return to school, the child and the parents will be invited to a reintegration meeting. At this meeting the child, parents and Headteacher will agree what each party will do to address the issue that caused the exclusion and devise a strategy to prevent the situation recurring. The agreement will be written and all parties will put their name to it.

Changes to the school exclusion process during any future coronavirus outbreak

See www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion