



Exclusions and suspensions policy

Autumn 2023

Statutory

Review: Autumn 2025

Valley End C of E (VC) Infant School is committed to providing the highest standards of education and care that offers equality of opportunity and is socially inclusive to all its pupils.

In recognising that there are certain instances where it may be necessary to exclude a pupil for either a fixed or permanent period of time, the school will follow the DfE Exclusion guidance found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion>

A decision to exclude a pupil will only be taken by the Headteacher or, in their absence, the Assistant Headteacher:

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

The Headteacher will:

- Consider all relevant facts and firm evidence to support allegations. If there are any doubts the pupil should not be excluded.
- Allow the pupil to give their version of events.
- Check whether the child was provoked.
- If necessary consult others – being careful not to involve anyone who may later take part in the statutory review of the decision.

Exclusion and suspension will not be used for:

- Minor incidents
- Poor academic performance
- Lateness or truancy
- Breaching uniform policy
- Punishing pupils for behaviour of parents

In most cases a range of alternative strategies to promote social inclusion e.g. a pastoral/behaviour support plan involving outside agencies, will have been tried and failed, before a pupil is excluded.

However, the implementation of the following policies aims to ensure all children are integrated into school successfully. The policies are:-

- Behaviour management
- Anti-Bullying
- Safeguarding and child protection
- Supporting Children with Medical Conditions
- Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural
- Physical Intervention
- Special Educational Needs and disabilities
- Equalities

Policies that impact exclusion and suspension will be reviewed and updated regularly, by the relevant committees of the governing body and will reflect any changes to exclusion legislation such as behaviour, equality or disability.

Links to other policies:

- Behaviour management
- Anti-Bullying
- Safeguarding and child protection
- Supporting Children with Medical Conditions
- Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural
- Physical Intervention
- Special Educational Needs and disabilities
- Single equalities
- Physical Interventions