



Wallop Primary School

Suspension and Exclusion Policy

Produced By:	K. Simons Headteacher
Approved for School: Headteacher: K Simons Date: 20/01/2026	 (Signature)
Approved by Governing Body: Chair/Deputy Chair: J Hannan Date: 20/01/2026	 (Signature)

Purpose and Principles

At Wallop Primary School, we are committed to creating a safe, inclusive and respectful environment where all pupils can learn and thrive. Positive behaviour is built through strong relationships, high expectations and consistent support.

This policy sits alongside the school's Relational Behaviour Policy, which is underpinned by the shared expectations that all pupils are Ready, Respectful and Safe. These principles guide daily practice, restorative approaches and graduated responses to behaviour.

Suspension and permanent exclusion are serious sanctions and are used only as a last resort, where there has been a serious breach or persistent breaches of the Behaviour Policy, and where allowing a pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that any decision to suspend or permanently exclude a pupil is lawful, fair, proportionate and consistent, and that pupils' safeguarding, wellbeing and right to education are protected at all times.

Definitions

- **Suspension** is the temporary removal of a pupil from school for disciplinary reasons. A pupil may be suspended for one or more fixed periods, up to a maximum of 45 school days in a single academic year. Suspensions may be consecutive or non-consecutive.
- **Permanent exclusion** is the permanent removal of a pupil from the school following a serious breach or persistent breaches of the school's Behaviour Policy, where allowing the pupil to remain would seriously harm the education or welfare of pupils or staff.

Legal Framework

This policy operates in accordance with relevant legislation and statutory guidance, including but not limited to:

- Education Act 2002
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010



- School Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) Regulations
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)
- DfE statutory guidance on suspension and permanent exclusion

This policy should be read alongside the school's:

- Behaviour Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- SEND Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy

Grounds for Suspension or Permanent Exclusion

The school will only suspend or permanently exclude a pupil where it is absolutely necessary and where other strategies and sanctions have been unsuccessful, or where the seriousness of an incident warrants immediate action including reviewing Individual Behaviour Plans or risk assessments.

Examples of behaviours that may lead to suspension or permanent exclusion include:

- Serious physical assault against a pupil or adult
- Significant verbal abuse or threatening behaviour
- Use or threat of use of an offensive weapon or prohibited item
- Bullying, including discriminatory abuse
- Serious breaches of the Behaviour Policy

Each case will be considered individually, taking account of the circumstances, the pupil's needs and any mitigating factors.

Decision-Making and Thresholds

Only the headteacher has the legal authority to suspend or permanently exclude a pupil, and decisions will be made on disciplinary grounds only.

When making a decision, the headteacher will ensure that it is:

- Lawful, reasonable and proportionate
- Based on the balance of probabilities
- Consistent with the school's relational and restorative approach
- In line with safeguarding duties and the Equality Act 2010

Safeguarding, SEND and Equality

The school recognises that some pupils are more vulnerable to suspension and exclusion, including pupils with SEND. When considering suspension or exclusion, the headteacher will:

- Take account any contributing factors, including unmet needs, trauma, bullying or mental health concerns
- Ensure reasonable adjustments have been made for pupils with SEND
- Use suspension or exclusion only where the graduated response has been exhausted, unless the seriousness of the incident makes this unavoidable

Suspension or exclusion will not be used as a substitute for appropriate SEND support. The school will work closely with parents and external agencies to identify and address underlying needs.



Preventative and Alternative Measures

Before making a decision to permanently exclude, the headteacher will consider whether alternative strategies may be appropriate, including:

- Additional pastoral or behaviour support
- Off-site alternative provision to improve behaviour
- Managed moves (with the agreement of all parties)

Any such arrangements will be carefully planned, reviewed regularly and recorded in line with statutory guidance.

Notification and Communication

Where a decision is taken to suspend or permanently exclude a pupil, the headteacher will inform parents without delay and provide written notification setting out:

- The reason for the suspension or exclusion
- The length of the suspension or confirmation of permanent exclusion
- Parental rights to make representations and request reviews
- Arrangements for education during the period of suspension or exclusion

Where relevant, the school will also notify the governing body, local authority, social worker and virtual school head, in line with statutory requirements.

Education During Suspension or Exclusion

The school and governing body will ensure that pupils continue to receive suitable education following suspension or permanent exclusion, in line with statutory duties.

Where a suspension exceeds five school days, or in the case of permanent exclusion, suitable full-time education will be arranged from the sixth school day.

Work will be set and marked during the initial period of suspension where alternative provision is not yet in place.

Review Panels

The governing body will review suspensions and permanent exclusions where required by law, considering representations from parents and pupils.

Parents of permanently excluded pupils have the right to request an independent review panel. The local authority will arrange this in line with statutory guidance.

Monitoring and Review

The headteacher will report termly data on suspensions and exclusions to the governing body, including analysis of patterns and vulnerable groups.

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure continued compliance with legislation and guidance.

Date of review: January 2026	Date of implementation: January 2026
Next review due: January 2027	Reviewing Committee: FGB