



# **Suspension and Permanent Exclusion Policy**

Principal	Shereka James
Designated Safeguarding Lead:	Ben Howe
Vice Principal (Behaviour)	Rachael Adediran
Review Cycle:	Annual
Governing Body Ratification	June 2023
Date shared with Academy Staff	September 2023
Review Date	June 2024

## Contents

Contents .....	3
1. Aims .....	4
2. Legislation and statutory guidance .....	4
3. Definitions .....	4
5. Roles and responsibilities .....	6
6. Considering the reinstatement of a pupil .....	10
7. Independent review .....	12
8. Academy registers .....	13
9. Returning from a suspension or Alternative provision .....	14
10. Monitoring arrangements.....	15
11. Links with other policies.....	15
Appendix 1: independent review panel training.....	17

## 1. Aims

We are committed to following all statutory exclusions procedures to ensure that every child receives an education in an inclusive, safe and caring environment.

Our Academy aims to:

- Ensure that the exclusions process is applied fairly and consistently
- Help governors, staff, parents and pupils understand the exclusions process
- Ensure that pupils in Academy are safe and happy
- Prevent pupils from becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training)
- Ensure all suspensions and permanent exclusions are carried out lawfully

## 2. Legislation and statutory guidance

This policy is based on statutory guidance from the Department for Education: [Suspension and permanent exclusion from maintained Academics, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement](#). 2023

It is based on the following legislation, which outlines Academics' powers to exclude pupils:

- Section 51a of the Education Act 2002, as amended by the Education Act 2011
- [The Academy Discipline \(Pupil Exclusions and Reviews\) \(England\) Regulations 2012](#)

In addition, the policy is based on:

- Part 7, chapter 2 of the [Education and Inspections Act 2006](#), which sets out parental responsibility for excluded pupils
- Section 579 of the [Education Act 1996](#), which defines 'Academy day'
- The [Education \(Provision of Full-Time Education for Excluded Pupils\) \(England\) Regulations 2007](#), as amended by [The Education \(Provision of Full-Time Education for Excluded Pupils\) \(England\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2014](#)
- [The Equality Act 2010](#)
- [Children and Families Act 2014](#)

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

## 3. Definitions

Suspension – when a pupil is removed from the Academy for a fixed period. This was previously referred to as a 'fixed-term exclusion'.

Permanent exclusion – when a pupil is removed from the Academy permanently and taken off the Academy roll. This is sometimes referred to as an 'exclusion'.

Off-site direction – when a governing board of a maintained Academy requires a pupil to attend another education setting temporarily, to improve their behaviour.

Parent – any person who has parental responsibility and any person who has care of the child.

Managed move – when a pupil is transferred to another Academy permanently. All parties, including parents and the admission authority for the new Academy, must consent before a managed move occurs.

#### **4. Alternative Provision and Off-site direction**

Skidders' Academy is aware that off-rolling is unlawful. Ofsted defines off-rolling as:

“The practice of removing a pupil from the Academy roll without a formal, permanent exclusion or by encouraging a parent to remove their child from the Academy roll, when the removal is primarily in the interests of the Academy rather than in the best interests of the pupil.”

We will not suspend or exclude pupils unlawfully by directing them off site, or not allowing pupils to attend Academy:

- Without following the statutory procedure or formally recording the event, e.g. sending them home to 'cool off'
- Because they have special educational needs and/or a disability (SEND) that the Academy feels unable to support
- Due to poor academic performance
- Because they haven't met a specific condition, such as attending a reintegration meeting
- By exerting undue influence on a parent to encourage them to remove their child from the Academy

#### **Off-site direction**

Off-site direction is when a governing board of a maintained school requires a pupil to attend another education setting to improve their behaviour. Whilst the legislation does not apply to academies, they can arrange off-site provision for such purposes under their general powers.

The Academy may direct a pupil to off site alternative provision (AP) where interventions or targeted support have not been successful in improving a pupil's behaviour. These placements will be time limited placements and pupils will be dual registered.

Where an alternative provision school is not used, for example if a pupil is directed to Academy21 online alternative provision, targeted support will be provided by the Academy. Depending on the individual needs and circumstances of the pupil, off-site direction into alternative provision may be full-time or a combination of part-time support in alternative provision and continued mainstream education.

A proposed maximum period of time will be discussed and agreed upon as part of the planning phase for an off-site direction. As part of planning, alternative options will be considered once the time limit has been reached, including a managed move on a permanent basis upon review of the time limited placement. The Academy will ensure that parents are fully involved in the decision making process (or pupils aged 18 or over) (and the local authority if the pupil has an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan) are notified in writing and provided with information about the placement as soon as practicable after the direction has been made and no later than two school days before the relevant day.

Parents (or pupils aged 18 or over) and, where the pupil has an EHC plan, the local authority can request, in writing, that the governing board hold a review meeting which the governing board will convene as soon as is reasonably practicable, unless there has already been a review meeting in the previous 10 weeks.

The length of time a pupil spends in another mainstream school or alternative provision and the reintegration plan will be kept under review by the governing body.

Review meetings will be held at such intervals as, having regard to the needs of the pupil, the Academy consider appropriate, for as long as the requirement remains in effect. Not later than six days before the date of any review meeting, the Academy will give a written invitation to parents (and the local authority if the pupil has an EHC plan) to attend the review meeting, or to submit in writing before the date of the meeting their views as to whether off-site direction should continue to have effect.

Insofar as is practicable, any review meeting will be convened on a date, and at a time, that is suitable for the parent. The governing body will keep the placement under review for as long as the requirement remains in effect and will decide following each review meeting as to whether the requirement should continue to have effect and, if so, for what period of time.

The meeting will include arrangements for reviews, including how often the placement will be reviewed, when the next review will be and who should be involved in the reviews. These reviews will be recorded in writing and be frequent enough to provide assurance that the off-site direction is achieving its objectives.

The Academy will give written notification of the decision as to whether the requirement to continue the placement should continue and if so, for what period of time including the reasons for it to the parent no later than six days after the date of the review meeting.

The Academy will take into account the views of any persons (the relevant person, the provider, the head teacher of the school, a representative of the governing body; and where the pupil has a statement of special educational needs, a representative of the local authority maintaining the statement referred to in regulation) who have attended the review meeting or have submitted their views in writing. The length of time a pupil spends in another mainstream school or alternative provision will depend on what best supports the pupil's needs and potential improvement in behaviour.

## Suspensions and Exclusions

### 5. Roles and responsibilities

#### 5.1 The Principal

##### Deciding whether to suspend or exclude

Only the Principal, or acting Principal, can suspend or permanently exclude a pupil from Academy on disciplinary grounds. The decision can be made in respect of behaviour inside or outside of Academy. The Principal will only use permanent exclusion when it is reasonable; fair; and proportionate.

A decision to permanently exclude a pupil will be taken only:

- In response to serious or persistent breaches of the Academy's behaviour policy, **and**
- If allowing the pupil to remain in Academy would seriously harm the education or welfare of others

**Before deciding whether to suspend or exclude a pupil, the Principal will:**

- Consider all the relevant facts and evidence on the balance of probabilities, including whether the incident(s) leading to the exclusion were provoked
- Allow the pupil to give their version of events
- Consider whether the pupil has special educational needs (SEN)

- Consider whether the pupil is especially vulnerable (e.g. the pupil has a social worker, or is a looked-after child (LAC))
- Consider whether all alternative solutions have been explored, such as off-site direction or managed moves

The Principal will consider the views of the pupil, in light of their age and understanding, before deciding to suspend or exclude, unless it would not be appropriate to do so.

Pupils who need support to express their views will be allowed to have their views expressed through an advocate, such as a parent or social worker.

The Principal will not reach their decision until they have heard from the pupil, and will inform the pupil of how their views were taken into account when making the decision.

### **Informing parents**

If a pupil is at risk of suspension or exclusion the Principal will inform the parents as early as possible, in order to work together to consider what factors may be affecting the pupil's behaviour, and what further support can be put in place to improve the behaviour.

If the Principal decides to suspend or exclude a pupil, the parents will be informed of the period of the suspension or exclusion and the reason(s) for it, without delay.

The parents will also be provided with the following information in writing, without delay:

- The reason(s) for the suspension or exclusion
- The length of the suspension or, for a permanent exclusion, the fact that it is permanent
- Information about parents' right to make representations about the suspension or permanent exclusion to the governing board and how the pupil may be involved in this
- How any representations should be made
- The governing board may be required to hold a meeting to consider the reinstatement of a pupil. In that event, the parents of the pupil (or the pupil, if they are 18 years old) have a right to attend the meeting with a representative (at their own expense) and or friend.

The Principal will also notify parents without delay and by the end of the afternoon session on the first day their child is suspended or permanently excluded, that:

- For the first 5 Academy days of an exclusion (or until the start date of any alternative provision or the end of the suspension, where this is earlier), the parents are legally required to ensure that their child is not present in a public place during Academy hours without a good reason. This will include specifying on which days this duty applies
- Parents may be given a fixed penalty notice or prosecuted if they fail to do this

**If alternative provision is being arranged, the following information will be included, if possible:**

- The start date for any provision of full-time education that has been arranged
- The start and finish times of any such provision, including the times for morning and afternoon sessions, where relevant
- The address at which the provision will take place
- Any information the pupil needs in order to identify the person they should report to on the first day

If the Principal does not have the all the information about the alternative provision arrangements by the end of the afternoon session on the first day of the suspension or permanent exclusion, they can provide the information at a later date, without delay and no later than 48 hours before the provision is due to start.



The only exception to this is where alternative provision is to be provided before the sixth day of a suspension or permanent exclusion, in which case the Academy reserves the right to provide the information with less than 48 hours' notice, with parents' consent.

### **Informing the governing board**

The Principal will, without delay, notify the governing board of:

- Any permanent exclusion, including when a suspension is followed by a decision to permanently exclude a pupil
- Any suspension or permanent exclusion which would result in the pupil being suspended or permanently excluded for a total of more than 5 Academy days (or more than 10 lunchtimes) in a term or any suspension or permanent exclusion which would result in the pupil being suspended for more than 15 days in a half term
- Any suspension or permanent exclusion which would result in the pupil missing a National Curriculum test or public exam

The governing board will consider and decide on reinstatement in these cases

The Principal will notify the governing board once per term of any other suspensions of which they have not previously been notified, and the number of suspensions and exclusions which have been cancelled, including the circumstances and reasons for the cancellation.

### **Informing the local authority (LA)**

The Principal will notify the LA of all suspensions and permanent exclusions without delay, regardless of the length of a suspension.

The notification will include:

The reason(s) for the suspension or permanent exclusion

The length of a suspension or, for a permanent exclusion, the fact that it is permanent

For a permanent exclusion, if the pupil lives outside the LA in which the Academy is located, the Principal will also, without delay, inform the pupil's 'home authority' of the exclusion and the reason(s) for it.

### **Informing the pupil's social worker and/or Virtual School head (VSH)**

If a:

- **Pupil with a social worker is at risk of suspension or permanent exclusion, the Principal will inform the social worker as early as possible**
- **Pupil who is a looked-after child (LAC) is at risk of suspension or exclusion, the Principal will inform the VSH as early as possible**

This is in order to work together to consider what factors may be affecting the pupil's behaviour, and what further support can be put in place to improve the behaviour.

If the Principal decides to suspend or permanently exclude a pupil with a social worker / a pupil who is looked after, they will inform the pupil's social worker / the VSH, as appropriate, without delay, that:

- **They have decided to suspend or permanently exclude the pupil**
- **The reason(s) for the decision**
- **The length of the suspension or, for a permanent exclusion, the fact that it is permanent**
- **The suspension or permanent exclusion affects the pupil's ability to sit a National Curriculum test or public exam (where relevant)**



The social worker / VSH will be invited to any meeting of the governing board about the suspension or permanent exclusion. This is so they can provide advice on how the pupil's background and/or circumstances may have influenced the circumstances of their suspension or permanent exclusion. The social worker should also help ensure safeguarding needs and risks and the pupil's welfare are taken into account.

### **Cancelling suspensions and permanent exclusions**

The Principal may cancel a suspension or permanent exclusion that has already begun, but this will only be done where it has not yet been reviewed by the governing board. Where there is a cancellation:

- The parents, governing board and LA will be notified without delay
- Where relevant, any social worker and VSH will notified without delay
- Parents will be offered the opportunity to meet with the Principal to discuss the cancellation
- As referred to above, the Principal will report to the governing board once per term on the number of cancellations
- The pupil will be allowed back to the Academy

### **Providing education during the first 5 days of a suspension or permanent exclusion**

During the first 5 days of a suspension, if the pupil is not attending alternative provision (AP), the Principal will take steps to ensure that achievable and accessible work is set and marked for the pupil. Online pathways such as Google Classroom or Oak Academy may be used for this. If the pupil has a special educational need or disability, the Principal will make sure that reasonable adjustments are made to the provision where necessary.

If the pupil is looked after or if they have a social worker, the Academy will work with the LA to arrange AP from the first day following the suspension or permanent exclusion. Where this isn't possible, the Academy will take reasonable steps to set and mark work for the pupil, including the use of online pathways.

## **5.2 The governing board**

### **Considering suspensions and permanent exclusions**

Responsibilities regarding suspensions and permanent exclusions are delegated to the Education and Wellbeing Committee consisting of at least 3 governors.

The Education and Wellbeing Committee has a duty to consider parents' representations about a suspension or permanent exclusion. It has a duty to consider the reinstatement of a suspended or permanently excluded pupil (see sections 5 and 6) in certain circumstances.

Within 14 days of receiving a request from the Secretary of State or the LA, the governing board will provide the Secretary of State and LA with information about any suspensions or exclusions within the last 12 months.

For any suspension of more than 5 Academy days, the governing board will arrange suitable full-time education for the pupil. This provision will begin no later than the sixth day of the suspension.

The governing board does not have to arrange such provision for pupils in their final year of compulsory education who do not have any further public exams to sit.

### **Monitoring and analysing suspensions and exclusions data**

The governing board will challenge and evaluate the data on the Academy's use of suspension, exclusion, off-site direction to alternative provision and managed moves.

The governing board will consider:

- How effectively and consistently the Academy's behaviour policy is being implemented
- The Academy register and absence codes
- Instances where pupils receive repeat suspensions
- Interventions in place to support pupils at risk of suspension or permanent exclusion
- Any variations in the rolling average of permanent exclusions, to understand why this is happening, and to make sure they are only used when necessary
- Timing of moves and permanent exclusions, and whether there are any patterns, including any indications which may highlight where policies or support are not working
- The characteristics of suspended and permanently excluded pupils, and why this is taking place
- Whether the placements of pupils directed off-site into alternative provision are reviewed at sufficient intervals to assure that the education is achieving its objectives and that pupils are benefiting from it
- The cost implications of directing pupils off-site

### 5.3 The local authority (LA)

For permanent exclusions, the LA will arrange suitable full-time education to begin no later than the sixth Academy day after the first day of the exclusion.

For pupils who are LAC or have social workers, the LA and the Academy will work together arrange suitable full-time education to begin from the first day of the exclusion.

## 6. Considering the reinstatement of a pupil

The Education and Wellbeing Committee will consider and decide on the reinstatement of a suspended or permanently excluded pupil within 15 Academy days of receiving the notice of the suspension or exclusion if:

- The exclusion is permanent
- It is a suspension which would bring the pupil's total number of days out of Academy to more than 15 in a term; or
- It would result in a pupil missing a public exam or National Curriculum test

Where the pupil has been suspended, and the suspension does not bring the pupil's total number of days of suspension to more than 5 in a term, the Education and Wellbeing Committee must consider any representations made by parents. However, it is not required to arrange a meeting with parents, and it cannot direct the Principal to reinstate the pupil.

Where the pupil has been suspended for more than 5 days, but less than 16 days, in a single term, and the parents make representations to the board, the Education and Wellbeing Committee will consider and decide on the reinstatement of a suspended pupil within 50 Academy days of receiving notice of the suspension. If the parents do not make representations, the board is not required to meet and it cannot direct the Principal to reinstate the pupil.

Where a suspension or permanent exclusion would result in a pupil missing a public exam or National Curriculum test, the Education and Wellbeing Committee will, as far as reasonably practicable, consider and decide on the reinstatement of the pupil before the date of the exam or test. If this is not practicable, the chair of the governing board (or the vice-chair, if necessary) may consider the suspension or permanent exclusion and decide whether or not to reinstate the pupil.

The following parties will be invited to a meeting of the governing board and allowed to make representations or share information:

- Parents, or the pupil if they are 18 or over (and, where requested, a representative or friend)
- The pupil, if they are aged 17 or younger and it would be appropriate to their age and understanding (and, where requested, a representative or friend)
- The Principal
- The pupil's social worker, if they have one
- The VSH, if the pupil is looked after
- A representative of the local authority

The governing board will try to arrange the meeting within the statutory time limits set out above and must try to have it at a time that suits all relevant parties. However, its decision will not be invalid simply on the grounds that it was not made within these time limits.

The Education and Wellbeing Committee can either:

- Decline to reinstate the pupil, or
- Direct the reinstatement of the pupil immediately, or on a particular date (except in cases where the board cannot do this – see earlier in this section)

In reaching a decision, the Education and Wellbeing Committee will consider:

- Whether the decision to suspend or permanently exclude was lawful, reasonable, and procedurally fair
- Whether the Principal followed their legal duties
- The welfare and safeguarding of the pupil and their peers
- Any evidence that was presented to the governing board

They will decide whether or not a fact is true 'on the balance of probabilities'.

Minutes will be taken of the meeting, and a record kept of the evidence that was considered. The outcome will also be recorded on the pupil's educational record, and copies of relevant papers will be kept with this record.

The Education and Wellbeing Committee will notify, in writing, the following stakeholders of its decision, along with reasons for its decision, without delay:

- The parents, or the pupil, if they are 18 or older
- The Principal
- The pupil's social worker, if they have one
- The VSH, if the pupil is looked after
- The local authority
- The pupil's home authority, if it differs from the Academy's

Where an exclusion is permanent and the Education and Wellbeing Committee has decided not to reinstate the pupil, the notification of decision will also include the following:

- The fact that it is a permanent exclusion
- Notice of the right to ask for the decision to be reviewed by an independent review panel
- The date by which an application for an independent review must be made (15 Academy days from the date on which notice in writing of the governing board's decision is given to parents)
- The name and address to which an application for a review and any written evidence should be submitted

- That any application should set out the grounds on which it is being made and that, where appropriate, it should include reference to how the pupil's special educational needs (SEN) are considered to be relevant
- That, regardless of whether the excluded pupil has recognised SEN, parents have a right to require the Academy to appoint an SEN expert to advise the review panel
- Details of the role of the SEN expert and that there would be no cost to parents for this appointment
- That parents must make clear if they wish for an SEN expert to be appointed in any application for a review
- That parents may, at their own expense, appoint someone to make written and/or oral representations to the panel, and parents may also bring a friend to the review
- That, if parents believe that the permanent exclusion has occurred as a result of unlawful discrimination, they may make a claim under the Equality Act 2010 to the first-tier tribunal (special educational needs and disability), in the case of disability discrimination, or the county court, in the case of other forms of discrimination. Also that any claim of discrimination made under these routes should be lodged within 6 months of the date on which the discrimination is alleged to have taken place

## 7. Independent review

If parents apply for an independent review within the legal timeframe, the Academy will arrange for an independent panel to review the decision of the governing board not to reinstate a permanently excluded pupil.

Applications for an independent review must be made within 15 school days of notice being given to the parents by the Education and Wellbeing Committee of its decision to not reinstate the pupil **or**, if after this time, within 15 Academy days of the final determination of a claim of discrimination under the Equality Act 2010 regarding the permanent exclusion.

A panel of 3 or 5 members will be constituted with representatives from each of the categories below. Where a 5-member panel is constituted, 2 members will come from the Academy governor category and 2 members will come from the Principal category. At all times during the review process there must be the required representation on the panel.

- A lay member to chair the panel who has not worked in any Academy in a paid capacity, disregarding any experience as an Academy governor or volunteer
- Current or former Academy governors who have served as a governor for at least 12 consecutive months in the last 5 years, provided they have not been teachers or Principals during this time
- Principals or individuals who have been a Principal within the last 5 years
- **A person may not serve as a member of a review panel if they:**
- Are a member of the Academy trust of the excluding Academy
- Are the Principal of the excluding Academy, or have held this position in the last 5 years
- Are an employee of the Academy or the governing board, of the excluding Academy (unless they are employed as a Principal at another Academy)
- Have, or at any time have had, any connection with the Academy, governing board, parents or pupil, or the incident leading to the exclusion, which might reasonably be taken to raise doubts about their impartiality

- Have not had the required training within the last 2 years (see appendix 1 for what training must cover)

The panel must consider the interests and circumstances of the pupil, including the circumstances in which the pupil was permanently excluded, and have regard to the interests of other pupils and people working at the Academy.

Taking into account the pupil's age and understanding, the pupil or their parents will be made aware of their right to attend and participate in the review meeting and the pupil should be enabled to make representations on their own behalf, should they desire to.

Where a SEN expert is present, the panel must seek and have regard to the SEN expert's view of how SEN may be relevant to the pupil's permanent exclusion.

Where a social worker is present, the panel must have regard to any representation made by the social worker of how the pupil's experiences, needs, safeguarding risks and/or welfare may be relevant to the pupil's permanent exclusion.

Where a VSH is present, the panel must have regard to any representation made by the social worker of how any of the child's background, education and safeguarding needs were considered by the Principal in the lead up to the permanent exclusion, or are relevant to the pupil's permanent exclusion.

Following its review, the independent panel will decide to do one of the following:

- Uphold the governing board's decision
- Recommend that the governing board reconsiders reinstatement
- Quash the governing board's decision and direct that they reconsider reinstatement (only if it judges that the decision was flawed)

New evidence may be presented, though the Academy cannot introduce new reasons for the permanent exclusion or the decision not to reinstate. The panel must disregard any new reasons given by the Academy that are introduced.

In deciding whether the decision was flawed, and therefore whether to quash the decision not to reinstate, the panel must only take account of the evidence that was available to the governing board at the time of making its decision. This includes any evidence that the panel considers would, or should, have been available to the governing board and that it ought to have considered if it had been acting reasonably.

If evidence is presented that the panel considers it is unreasonable to expect the governing board to have been aware of at the time of its decision, the panel can take account of the evidence when deciding whether to recommend that the governing board reconsider reinstatement.

The panel's decision can be decided by a majority vote. In the case of a tied decision, the chair has the casting vote.

Once the panel has reached its decision, the panel will notify all parties in writing without delay.

This notification will include:

- The panel's decision and the reasons for it
- Where relevant, details of any financial readjustment or payment to be made if the governing board does not subsequently decide to offer to reinstate the pupil within 10 Academy days
- Any information that the panel has directed the governing board to place on the pupil's educational record

## 8. Academy registers

A pupil's name will be removed from the Academy admission register if:

- 15 Academy days have passed since the parents were notified of Education and Wellbeing Committee decision to not reinstate the pupil and no application has been made for an independent review panel, or
- The parents have stated in writing that they will not be applying for an independent review panel

Where an application for an independent review has been made within 15 Academy days, the governing board will wait until that review has concluded before removing a pupil's name from the register.

While the pupil's name remains on the Academy's admission register, the pupil's attendance will still be recorded appropriately. Where alternative provision has been made for an excluded pupil and they attend it, code B (education off-site) or code D (dual registration) will be used on the attendance register.

Where excluded pupils are not attending alternative provision, code E (absent) will be used.

### **Making a return to the LA**

Where a pupil's name is to be removed from the Academy admissions register because of a permanent exclusion, the Academy will make a return to the LA. The return will include:

- The pupil's full name
- The full name and address of any parent or person with parental responsibility with whom the pupil normally resides
- At least 1 telephone number at which any parent or person with parental responsibility with whom the pupil normally resides can be contacted in an emergency
- The grounds upon which their name is to be deleted from the admissions register (i.e., permanent exclusion)
- Details of the new school the pupil will attend, including the name of that school and the first date when the pupil attended or is due to attend there, if the parents have told the Academy the pupil is moving to another Academy
- Details of the pupil's new address, including the new address, the name of the parent(s) or person with parental responsibility the pupil is going to live there with, and the date when the pupil is going to start living there, if the parents or person with parental responsibility have informed the Academy that the pupil is moving house

This return must be made as soon as the grounds for removal is met and no later than the removal of the pupil's name.

## **9. Returning from a suspension or Alternative provision**

### **9.1 Reintegration strategy**

Following suspension, Skinners' Academy will put in place a strategy to help the pupil reintegrate successfully into Academy life and full-time education.

Where necessary, the Academy will work with third-party organisations to identify whether the pupil has any unmet special educational and/or health needs.

The following measures may be implemented, as part of the strategy, to ensure a successful reintegration into Academy life:

- Maintaining regular contact during the suspension or off-site direction and welcoming the pupil back to Academy
- Daily contact in Academy with a designated pastoral professional
- Mentoring by a trusted adult or a local mentoring charity
- Regular reviews with the pupil and parents to praise progress being made and raise and address any concerns at an early stage

- [Informing the pupil, parents and staff of potential external support](#)

Part-time timetables will not be used as a tool to manage behaviour and, if used, will be put in place for the minimum time necessary.

The strategy will be regularly reviewed and adapted where necessary throughout the reintegration process in collaboration with the pupil, parents, and other relevant parties.

## **9.2 Reintegration meetings**

The Academy will explain the reintegration strategy to the pupil in a reintegration meeting before or on the pupil's return to Academy. During the meeting the Academy will communicate to the pupil that they are getting a fresh start and that they are a valued member of the Academy community.

The pupil, parents or other person with parental responsibility, a member of senior staff, and any other relevant staff will be invited to attend the meeting.

The meeting can proceed without the parents or other person with parental responsibility in the event that they cannot or do not attend.

The Academy expects all returning pupils and their parents or other person with parental responsibility to attend their reintegration meeting, but pupils who do not attend will not be prevented from returning to the classroom.

## **10. Monitoring arrangements**

The Academy will collect data on the following:

- Attendance, permanent exclusions and suspensions
- Use of pupil referral units, off-site directions and managed moves
- Anonymous surveys of staff, pupils, governors and other stakeholders on their perceptions and experiences

The data will be analysed every term by Rachael Adediran, Vice Principal who will report back to the Principal or governors.

The data will be analysed from a variety of perspectives including:

- At Academy level
- By age group
- By time of day/week/term
- By protected characteristic

The Academy will use the results of this analysis to make sure it is meeting its duties under the Equality Act 2010. If any patterns or disparities between groups of pupils are identified by this analysis, the Academy will review its policies in order to tackle it.

This policy will be reviewed by Rachael Adediran every year. At every review, the policy will be approved by the Education and Wellbeing Committee.

## **11. Links with other policies**

This exclusions policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy



- SEN policy and information report
- Anti Bullying policy
- Safeguarding policy
- Equality Objectives Policy

## Appendix 1: independent review panel training

Skinner's Academy must make sure that all members of an independent review panel and clerks have received training within the 2 years prior to the date of the review.

Training must have covered:

- The requirements of the primary legislation, regulations and statutory guidance governing suspensions and permanent exclusions on disciplinary grounds, which would include an understanding of how the principles applicable in an application for judicial review relate to the panel's decision making
- The need for the panel to observe procedural fairness and the rules of natural justice
- The role of the chair and the clerk of a review panel
- The duties of Principals, governing boards and the panel under the Equality Act 2010
- The effect of section 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998 (acts of public authorities unlawful if not compatible with certain human rights) and the need to act in a manner compatible with human rights protected by that Act