

Chadwell Heath Academy

A Specialist Mathematics, Computing, Science and Media Arts College



Governing Body Statement on Pupil Discipline

Introduction

‘Discipline’ is the system and ethos which aims to develop in pupils both an acceptance and a recognition of their responsibility for their own actions and decisions together with their consequences.

The Governing Body regards bad behaviour as when a pupil, or pupils, prevent his/her own development, disrupts the development process for others, puts themselves or others at risk or damages the good name of the School within the community.

The Governing Body therefore seeks to promote self-discipline in all pupils and mutual respect between all members of the School so that effective learning can take place. The Governing Body believes that the most effective way of achieving this is for the School, parents and pupils to work together to uphold the Home School Agreement.

Statement

For the School to function efficiently and fulfil its purpose – the education of young people - there must be rules and processes for pupils to follow. The Governing Body believes that such rules should be based on the principles of Encouragement, Respect, Politeness, Good Manners and Health and Safety.

The Governing Body believes that such good behaviour is promoted by:

- good relationships based on mutual respect between pupils and between pupils and staff.
- high expectations by staff of the pupils they teach.
- implementing a curriculum and teaching strategies that match pupil needs.
- ensuring that opportunities throughout the School are truly equal.
- encouraging pupils’ own growing maturity and self esteem.
- employing an effective system that rewards effort and achievement.
- promoting the Home School Agreement and Code of Conduct

In day-to-day contact with pupils every effort should be made by all staff to underpin these ideas and engender a communal sense of purpose and pride in the School.

Exclusion

The Governing Body realises that there are occasions when a pupil may behave in a way that is unacceptable within the school community. The duty of the Headteacher is to the maintenance of school discipline and the best interests of the majority of the other pupils of

the School.

The Governing Body recognises that only the Headmaster can exclude a pupil and that the Deputy Headteacher can only exclude a pupil whilst in the capacity of acting Headteacher of the School. The Governing Body further recognises that the Headmaster may exclude a pupil permanently or for a fixed term. The total length of time for fixed term exclusion is 45 school days per year.

In all cases of fixed term exclusion, it is the requirement of the Governing Body that the School has a clear programme for the return of the pupil from exclusion to the School.

To carry out its responsibilities on pupil discipline effectively, the Governing Body has established a Discipline Committee, which is made up of three members of the Governing Body, to whom it delegates authority to review the school's use of exclusion and to act on its behalf in dealing with appeals against exclusion.

In the event of an exclusion, whether it be fixed term or permanent, a letter must be sent to the parents of the pupil concerned explaining the reasons for the exclusion and explaining that parents have the right to appeal to the Discipline Committee within 15 days of the date of the exclusion.

When a pupil is excluded for more than one day, the School must provide work for the pupil to complete and have that work marked. These arrangements must be included in the letter to parents.

Where the exclusion is for less than 5 school days the Discipline Committee cannot direct reinstatement, but will consider any statement from the parent. Where the exclusion is for more than 5 school days, or the pupil may lose the opportunity to take a public examination, the Discipline Committee will try to meet before the date of the examination and decide whether to uphold the Headmaster's decision or to reinstate the pupil.

In the case of an exclusion totalling more than 5 but not more than 15 days in any one term the Discipline Committee will meet between 6 to 50 school days of the date of the exclusion to decide whether to uphold the Headmaster's decision or to reinstate the pupil.

For permanent exclusions and fixed term exclusions of more than 15 days in any one term the Discipline Committee will meet between 6 to 15 school days of the date of the exclusion to decide whether to uphold the Headmaster's decision or to reinstate the pupil.

The procedure to be followed at a hearing of the committee will be in accordance with the model outline for hearing procedure agreed by the Governing Body.

At each termly meeting of the Governing Body the Headteacher will report on the pupils excluded in terms of their Year group, the reason for exclusion, and the time period of the exclusion.