

	Bridlewood Primary School	Last Reviewed June 2026
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	Suspensions and Exclusions Policy	Page 1 of 2

Aims and Scope

- This policy outlines Bridlewood Primary School's approach to suspensions and permanent exclusions and should be read alongside the Relationships & Behaviour Policy, SEND Policy, Equality Policy, Safeguarding & Child protection policy, Attendance Policy and Anti-bullying policy.
- The school is committed to developing an inclusive culture that promotes positive behaviour, safeguarding, wellbeing and equality of opportunity for all pupils.
- This policy reflects the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and recognises the school's duty to make reasonable adjustments for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Legislation and Statutory Guidance

- This policy is based on the Department for Education statutory guidance "Suspension and permanent exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement" (updated May 2026).
- The policy also reflects the Education Act 2002, the School Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) Regulations 2012, the Equality Act 2010 and current safeguarding guidance.
- The school acknowledges that off-rolling is unlawful. Pupils will not be removed from the school roll without following the formal statutory exclusion process.

Principles

- Suspension and permanent exclusion are used only as a last resort and where serious breaches of the Relationships & Behaviour Policy have occurred.
- Before any exclusion decision is made, the Headteacher will consider the pupil's age, SEND, disability, mental health needs, safeguarding factors, social worker involvement and whether the pupil is looked after or previously looked after.
- The school will consider whether reasonable adjustments and additional support strategies have been implemented prior to exclusion where appropriate.

Reasons for Suspension or Permanent Exclusion

- Serious verbal or physical assault towards pupils or adults.
- Persistent disruptive behaviour that significantly impacts learning or safety.
- Serious bullying, discriminatory behaviour or threatening conduct.
- Possession of prohibited items or behaviour placing others at risk.
- Extreme or one-off incidents that seriously breach the Relationships & Behaviour Policy.

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Authorisation

- Only the Headteacher, or the Deputy Headteacher acting with the Headteacher's authority, may suspend a pupil.
- Only the Headteacher may permanently exclude a pupil. The CEO of the Trust will be informed before a permanent exclusion decision is confirmed.

Notification Procedures

- Parents/carers will be informed without delay on the day a suspension or exclusion is authorised.
- Written confirmation will detail the reason for the suspension/exclusion, the length of the suspension, arrangements for education, and the right to make representations to the Trust board.
- Where a pupil has a social worker or is looked after, the relevant professionals and Virtual School Head will be informed without delay.
- The school will provide work for the first five school days of a suspension.

Education During Exclusion

- The school will arrange suitable full-time education from the sixth school day of any suspension exceeding five consecutive school days and from the sixth day following a permanent exclusion in partnership with the local authority.
- The school will work with external agencies and families to support reintegration wherever possible.

Reintegration Meetings

- Following a suspension, pupils and parents/carers will normally be expected to attend a reintegration meeting to discuss support strategies and successful reintegration into school.
- Pastoral, safeguarding, SEND or mental health support may be reviewed as part of the reintegration process.

Trust Board and Review Arrangements

- The Trust board will fulfil its statutory duties in considering suspensions and permanent exclusions.
- Parents/carers have the right to request an independent review panel following a permanent exclusion decision.
- Remote access meetings may be used where appropriate and in line with statutory guidance.
- The Local governing Committee and Trust board will monitor suspension/exclusion data to identify trends and ensure no group of pupils is disproportionately affected.