

### **Exclusion Policy - Extract from the Positive Behaviour Policy**

We strive to create a fully inclusive environment for all our young people but accept that sometimes exclusion may be necessary if the behaviour presented is considered a threat to the safety and wellbeing of others or when learning is compromised to an unacceptable level by persistent and extreme disruption.

The Principal may exclude a pupil for one or more fixed term periods, for up to 45 days in one school year. In extreme and exceptional circumstances, the Principal may exclude a pupil permanently.

Exclusion from school, from activities, from particular locations or from trips: in these instances, this is a reactive strategy available to staff, when all other de-escalation approaches have been exhausted. This will not, however, be used in a punitive way and the language used when exclusion is unavoidable will not be punitive in nature, e.g. a dynamic risk assessment might lead to exclusion from a pre-arranged activity on health and safety grounds.

The behaviours in question rather than the individual in question should be tackled when exclusion is applied. For example a script may run: *“It’s great when you’re involved with this activity because you bring a real sense of purpose to the group. The group can’t function with these behaviours though. You are welcome to be involved as soon as I’m sure that the behaviours aren’t going to come back”*. This type of script can be adapted to many different situations.

There are times when a member of staff may judge that a young person needs to leave the room or is not ready to join a group at the start of an activity. Teaching staff, in conjunction with Support staff are best placed to make a decision about this and pupils will not be allowed to join the group if their behaviours show that they are not ready to learn or to allow others to do so. The pupil will be allowed to re-join as soon as they make appropriate choices. This does not constitute exclusion and the strategy can be used by any member of staff as the need arises.