



Professional Support for pupils at risk of exclusion, information for parents

This leaflet explains what your child's school can do if your child is at risk of exclusion.

A head teacher may consider the following options before making the decision to exclude:

- **Restorative justice**
Helping the pupil to find a way of making up for what they have done.
- **Mediation**
This involves an impartial third party who helps the people involved in a conflict to try to resolve their issues and reach agreement.
- **Internal exclusion**
This can be used to diffuse situations that occur in school that require a pupil to be removed from class but not excluded from school. It can be in a designated area within the school with appropriate support and supervision, or to another class for a defined period of time.
- **Managed move to another school**
This enables a pupil to have a fresh start in a different school. The head teacher asks another head teacher to admit the pupil. This should only be done after full consultation with everyone involved and only when it is in the pupil's best interests to move school. Parents must never be pressurised into removing their child from the school under threat of exclusion.

School may consider involving the following professionals:

Behaviour and Curriculum Inclusion Team (BACIN)

This team includes teachers, support assistants and family liaison workers who provide advice to schools and parents about managing behaviour. They may also give direct support to pupils at risk of permanent exclusion.

Educational Psychologists

are all qualified teachers who have undertaken further training to become psychologists who specialise in child development, educational and special needs. They carry out observations and assessments to identify a pupil's special educational needs and the sort of additional support that is required.

Educational Welfare Officers

advise schools about attendance and other matters relating to a pupil's welfare. Educational Welfare Officers work with schools and families if a pupil's attendance is causing concern, including pupils at risk of exclusion

Community Paediatricians

identify any health problems that may be affecting a child's behaviour and educational progress. They are doctors who have undertaken specialist training in children's health.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health(CAMH)

is a service that helps families and schools to understand the mental health difficulties that a child may be experiencing and which are having an impact on their behaviour outside school.

School based family support professionals

- Parent support advisers (PSA)

- Home school liaison workers
- Family support workers
- Learning mentors.

How do these professionals become involved?


The head teacher or Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) at your child's school will request a consultation with any professional team they think can help them support your child. If a professional is asked to work directly with your child, this will be discussed with you first. The head teacher has overall responsibility to ensure the behaviour policy is followed within the school.

Pupils with special educational needs

Before excluding a pupil with special needs, schools should seek local authority and other professional advice and support at school Action Plus, including requesting a statutory assessment if appropriate. Other than in the most exceptional circumstances, school should avoid permanently excluding a pupil with a statement. They should liaise with the local authority and arrange an interim review of the statement.

This leaflet has been produced by SN-IP (Special Needs -Informed Parents). SN-IP is a parent partnership service which provides support and impartial advice to parents. They help parents to make informed decisions about their child's education but they do not take sides.

If you would like help, please contact:

 **SN-IP** www.snipnorthants.org
Special Needs - Informed Parents

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 Northampton, NN1 5BE
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 Wellingborough, NN8 2AA
 Tel: 01933 271673

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Further information:

ACE exclusion advice line-0808 8000327

ACE publications:

Fixed term Exclusions

Permanent Exclusions

www.ace-ed.org.uk

www.dcsf.gov.uk

Improving Behaviour and Attendance
 Department for Children, Schools and
 Families.

Tel: 0845 60 222 60

www.dcsf.gov.uk

This information can be made available in other languages and formats upon request.