

# Mougins School Exclusion Policy

## Philosophy

Mougins School has policies, procedures and staff training in place to promote good behaviour and prevent poor behaviour. Circumstances within a pupil's life at the school which give rise to the possibility of expulsion or removal are always a matter of grave concern for pupils themselves, parents and all those within the school community. The school recognises, however, that young people are growing up and that they may be prone to make mistakes. As a measure of last resort the school may need to exclude a child in order to safeguard the well-being of the school community.

In setting out this policy, Mougins School seeks to ensure that pupils who find themselves in such circumstances are treated fairly and firmly but with as much support as the circumstances allow. The exclusion of a child should only be considered when every other course of action and measure stipulated in the Mougins School Behaviour Policy has been exhausted.

This policy contains guidelines, which may be adapted as necessary, explaining the circumstances under which a pupil may be excluded from the School, or required to leave permanently for misconduct or other reasons. The policy applies to all pupils at the school but does not cover cases when a pupil has to leave because of non-payment of fees, or withdrawal by his/her parents. In such cases, parents are obliged to pay one full term's fees as notice, as stipulated in the contract signed on admission to the school.

## Aims of Mougins School

Mougins School Exclusion Policy supports the aims, vision and values of the school to:

Encourage pupils to develop morally, emotionally, culturally, intellectually and physically;  
Create a way of life characterised by caring, tolerance, security, praise and high expectations;

Enable pupils to learn best by being encouraged, valued, trusted and respected;

Help pupils develop continuously by providing conditions and experiences that sustain and encourage this development.

## Aims of Mougins School Exclusion Policy

It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected and that each person is treated fairly. We are a caring community, whose values are built on mutual trust and respect for all. The aims of this policy are to support and dovetail with Mougins School's Behaviour Policy. All disciplinary action must be underpinned by constant monitoring. All concerned parties throughout the process must give support through pastoral means.

## Conditions for Exclusion

We do not wish to exclude any child from school however sometimes this may be necessary. Ultimate sanctions at Mougins School are Temporary Exclusion and Permanent Exclusion. Neither sanction is used lightly.

A decision to exclude a child will be taken only:

**When there has been a serious breach, or a series or breaches which taken together constitute a serious breach, of the school's discipline policy**

or

**Continued unacceptable actions that are detrimental to the well-being of other members of the school and when school sanctions and other interventions have not been successful in modifying the student's behaviour**

or

**If allowing the child to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the child or other children in the school.**

## Exclusion Procedure

Only the Headteacher has the power to exclude a child from school. The Headteacher may exclude a child for one or more fixed periods. In extreme and exceptional circumstances the Headteacher may exclude a child permanently. It is also possible for the Headteacher to convert fixed-term exclusions into a permanent exclusion, if the circumstances warrant this.

Whilst each situation is judged on an individual basis, the Exclusion Procedures below are followed and dealt with as promptly as possible:

The Headteacher will ensure that appropriate investigations have been carried out and that information has been accurately recorded, allowing the student to give her/his version of events.

A pupil may be issued a Temporary Exclusion while a complaint is being investigated.

The Headteacher may decide to search a pupil's space and belongings, and ask him/her to turn out the contents of pockets or a bag, if he considers there is reasonable cause to do so.

An investigation and any subsequent meeting will be conducted fairly and in a way that is appropriate to Mougins School.

The Headteacher will consult with the Senior Management Team.

Where the decision is made by the Headteacher to exclude a child, he informs the parents immediately, giving reasons for the exclusion.

The Headteacher keeps a record of any child who is excluded for a fixed-term, or who is permanently excluded.

### Appeals

Parents have the right to appeal through the channels outlined in the Mougins School Complaints Policy.

### Review

The Mougins School Exclusion Policy will be reviewed annually. This review will take place prior to the start of the new academic year. The SMT will ensure that any outcome of review is rectified in the Staff Handbook, which will be distributed and explained to staff.