



Searching, Confiscation, and Exclusion Policy Statement – Appendix to Behaviour Policy

Reviewed: 05.11.2020 | Next date for review: 01.11.2021

Searching, Confiscation and Screening

At Running Deer School, we follow DfE guidelines on searching, confiscation and screening. It is expected that any action taken will include a member of Senior Leadership Team who must be familiar and knowledgeable about these guidelines. In summary, the Heads of School, or designated member of SLT, will search a student where they believe a student may have the following:

- Alcohol
- Illegal drugs
- Stolen items
- Tobacco and cigarette papers
- Fireworks
- Pornographic images
- Any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used:
- Likely to commit an offence, or to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil).

Fixed-term and permanent exclusions

In extreme cases of behaviour, the Head of School may exclude a student for a fixed term period. This would be in the case of extreme physical violence towards students or staff or ongoing risk-taking behaviour which puts the student themselves or others at risk. This exclusion allows time for staff to examine the risk assessment for the student, and their Interaction/Behaviour plan, and it is not used as a sanction.

All incidents of challenging behaviour, including physical interventions, are logged by staff on our recording system CPOMS. This allows us to monitor for patterns of behaviour and adjust provision accordingly.

Only the Head of School (or a designated member of the Senior Leadership team in their absence) has the power to exclude a student from school. The Head may exclude a student for one or more fixed



periods, for up to 45 days in any one school year. Education to be completed at home will be provided for the period of a fixed term exclusion.

The Head may also exclude a student permanently. It is also possible for the Head to convert a fixed-term exclusion into a permanent exclusion, if the circumstances warrant this. After the 6th day of a permanent exclusion the Local Authority have to provide education.

If the Head of School excludes a student, the parents/carers are informed immediately giving reasons for the exclusion. This will be followed up in writing within 24 hours of the exclusion. At the same time, the Head of School makes it clear to the parents/carers that they can, if they wish, appeal against the decision to the Board of Directors. The school informs the parents how to make any such appeal.

The Head of School informs the LA and the Board of Directors about any permanent exclusion, and about any fixed-term exclusions beyond five days in any one term.

The Board of Directors itself cannot either exclude a student or extend the exclusion period made by the Head of School.

When an appeals panel meets to consider an exclusion, they consider the circumstances in which the student was excluded, consider any representation by parents/carers and the LA, and consider whether the student should be reinstated following L.A published guidelines.

If the Board of Directors' appeals panel decides that a student should be reinstated, the Head of School must comply with this ruling.