

GOVERNORS' DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE REMIT

The composition of the Disciplinary Committee is at least three Governors (one of whom will chair).

The Disciplinary Committee will meet as and when required.

The quorum for Committee meetings is 3 Governors.

1. The Governors' Disciplinary Committee has a statutory role to play in upholding the Governors' responsibility for providing an orderly atmosphere in which effective teaching and learning can take place.
2. The Governing Body plays a key role in influencing the ethos of the School, its general atmosphere and philosophy and hence its standing in the community it serves. This influence carries with it a responsibility to support the Headteacher and staff in maintaining high standards of discipline. The Headteacher is responsible for securing discipline on a day to day basis but the Governing Body must ensure they are in a position to satisfy themselves that the Headteacher discharges these professional duties properly. Governors also need to keep under review the school's policy on exclusion (in the wider context of the School's policy on pupil behaviour and discipline) and to monitor the number of exclusions taking place.
3. The Governors' Disciplinary Committee operates in two forums: informal and formal.

Informal (Fixed Term Exclusions)

The Governors' Disciplinary Committee may request parents and pupils to appear before them in an informal capacity in order to discuss a particular pupil's behaviour which has led to one or more fixed term exclusions. At this meeting the Governors can explore reasons for the pupil's behaviour, seek assurances that future behaviour will be good and enlist the parents'/carers' support for the School in getting the pupil to improve his/her behaviour. In this capacity the governors are acting with the full knowledge of the Headteacher but do not have a statutory role to play.

Formal (including Permanent Exclusion)

The Governors' Disciplinary Committee must meet to consider whether or not to uphold the Headteacher's decision to permanently exclude a pupil from the school. After review of any evidence presented by the school and after hearing any representations, the Governors have within their power either to uphold the Headteacher's decision or to overturn it and reinstate the pupil to the School.

If the Governors decided to uphold the Headteacher's decision to permanently exclude a pupil and the parents/carers are still unhappy with this decision they may appeal to an Independent Review Panel and make representations to them.

4. For each individual exclusion of five or more days the Governing Body must be informed of each period of exclusion but it is not necessary for them to meet to decide whether or not to uphold the Headteacher's decision unless the parents make representations to the Governing Body.

5. The Governors' Disciplinary Committee must meet if a fixed period exclusion would bring the pupil's total number of school days of exclusion to more than 15 in a term or if it would result in a pupil missing a public examination.
6. The Governors' Disciplinary Committee will act in accordance with DfE "Exclusion from maintained schools, Academies and pupil referral units in England. A guide for those with legal responsibilities in relation to exclusion. September 2012."

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