



St Edward's
Church of England
Academy

Exclusion Policy

Coronavirus Addendum

RECOGNISE • ENCOURAGE • STRIVE • PREPARE • EMPATHISE • CHRISTIAN • TEAMWORK



St Edward's
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THE VISION FOR EDUCATION WITHIN A CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

There are fundamental reasons, rooted in the Bible, which have motivated centuries of Christian involvement in schooling in this country and around the world. The God of all creation is concerned with everything related to education.

There is a fresh articulation of the Church of England's vision for education as we meet the challenges and take the opportunities offered by the present situation. The vision is not simply for Church schools but, recognising the Church's involvement in education over many centuries, the Church of England seeks to promote educational excellence everywhere, for everyone. In Church schools like St Edward's Church of England Academy, the deeply Christian foundation for this vision will be seen explicitly in teaching and learning both in RE and across the curriculum, and also in the authentically Christian worship and ethos. The Church's vision for education can be expressed and promoted as one of human flourishing that inspires what the school is and does.

The vision is deeply Christian with the promise by Jesus of 'life in all its fullness' at its heart. This vision embraces the spiritual, physical, intellectual, emotional, moral and social development of children and young people. We offer a vision of human flourishing for all, one that embraces excellence and academic rigour, within a wider framework. This is worked out theologically and educationally through four basic elements which permeate our vision for education:

- Wisdom
- Hope
- Community
- Dignity

The vision, in line with the Church of England's role as the established Church, is for the common good of the whole community and its environment, whether national, regional or local. It is hospitable to diversity, respects freedom of religion and belief, and encourages others to contribute from the depths of their own traditions and understandings. It invites collaboration, alliances, negotiation of differences, and the forming of new settlements in order to serve the flourishing of a healthily plural society and democracy, together with a healthily plural educational system.



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ST EDWARD'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY VISION, ETHOS AND VALUES

The Vision for Education at our Academy

At St Edward's Church of England Academy, we are commissioned to celebrate and support the talents and potential of all in our community (Matthew 28: 18-12). In our Academy, we are all journeying together in order to learn through faith, grow through hope and achieve through love (Corinthians 13:13), allowing all to live life in all its fullness (John 10:10).

We are an avowedly inclusive community where all are welcomed, supported and celebrated for all they are and for all they do. Our Academy is a place of and a space for flourishing and fulfilment because here...

...we are 10:10 people.

The ethos and values of St Edward's Church of England Academy are based on the teachings of Jesus Christ and underpin everything that we are and everything that we do, which is encompassed in the word '**RESPECT**'.

Each letter links to the Academy motto – *Learn for Life*.

'Learn for Life'

- Recognise and Encourage everyone's potential, individual skills and talents
- Strive to be the best we can be
- Prepare for the challenges of life
- Empathise – promoting the values of respect, kindness, compassion, fairness, forgiveness, love, honesty and trust
- Christian – a community where we learn from the teachings of Jesus so that we can contribute to the family of St Edward's and beyond
- Teamwork – an environment where we work together so we can all achieve our potential



St Edward's Church of England Academy

1. Scope

This addendum applies for the duration of time that the Department for Education's (DfE's) statutory guidance on [temporary changes to exclusions during COVID-19](#) is in place.

It sets out temporary changes to our normal exclusion policy. Pupils, parents and staff should continue to follow our normal exclusion policy with respect to anything not covered in this addendum.

We may need to amend or add to this addendum as circumstances or official guidance changes. We will communicate any changes to staff, parents and pupils.

2. Remote panel meetings

For exclusions occurring between **1 June 2020 and 24 March 2021**, any meeting of a governing board exclusion panel or an independent review panel (IRP) will be held via remote access if:

- It is not reasonably practicable for the meeting to take place in person, within the usual timescales, due to coronavirus
- Our governing board (or the arranging authority, if the meeting is an IRP) is satisfied that:
- All participants agree to the use of remote access
- All participants have access to the technology which will allow them to hear and speak throughout the meeting, and (if a live video link is used) to see the other participants and be seen by them
- All participants will be able to put across their point of view or fulfil their function
- The meeting can be held fairly and transparently via remote access

During remote meetings, procedural requirements will remain as normal. For example, parents can still have a friend or representative join the meeting.

2.1 Responsibilities of the governing board or arranging authority

Our governing board (or the arranging authority in the case of an IRP meeting) will make sure the conditions above are met before a meeting takes place. When determining this, they will assess:

- The facts of the individual case
- The circumstances in which a meeting in person could be expected to take place
- The needs of the participants (as far as this is possible)
- The latest public health guidance

Ahead of the meeting, our governing board (or the arranging authority) will:

- Explain to participants what technology they propose to use
- Explain that participants do not have to agree to a remote meeting if they do not want to, though this will likely result in the meeting being delayed
- Take reasonable steps to facilitate participants' access to the technology required



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If, once the meeting starts, it cannot proceed fairly (for example, because a participant cannot access the meeting), our governing board or the IRP will adjourn the meeting.

3. Applications for an independent review

For exclusions occurring between **1 June 2020 and 24 March 2021**, applications for an independent review must be made within **25 school days** (as opposed to 15 school days as outlined in our normal policy) of notice being given to the parents by St Edward's Church of England Trustee Board of its decision to not reinstate a pupil.

The school will wait for 25 school days to pass without an application having been made before deleting the name of a permanently excluded pupil from the admissions register.

4. Timescales for holding panel meetings

4.1 Exclusions between 25 September 2020 and 24 March 2021

Our governing board will follow our normal timescales for holding meetings. However, where this is not reasonably practicable due to coronavirus or due to the conditions for a remote access meeting, the board will hold them as soon as it is safe to meet in person or practical to do so via remote access.

4.2 Exclusions between 1 June 2020 and 24 September 2020

Fixed-period exclusions resulting in the pupil missing between 6 and 15 school days in a term

Where a parent/carer chooses to make representations about the exclusion, the governing board will hold a meeting to discuss the pupil's reinstatement within **60 school days**, or as soon as possible after that, if:

- Due to coronavirus it has not been reasonably practicable for the governing board to meet face-to-face within our normal timeframe of 50 school days
- It has not been reasonably practicable for the governing board to meet remotely due to the conditions for a remote meeting

Permanent exclusions, and fixed-period exclusions resulting in the pupil missing more than 15 school days in a term

The governing board will meet to discuss the pupil's reinstatement within **25 schools days**, or as soon as possible after that, if:

- Due to coronavirus it has not been reasonably practicable for the governing board to meet face-to-face within our normal timeframe of 15 school days
- It has not been reasonably practicable for the governing board to meet remotely for a reason relating to the conditions for a remote access meeting

IRPs to consider permanent exclusions

The timescale for the IRP meeting will be extended to **25 school days** (from the usual 15 school days), or as long as reasonably necessary, if it has not been reasonably practicable for the review panel to meet:

- Face-to-face within 15 school days due to coronavirus



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- Remotely for a reason relating to the conditions for a remote access meeting

5. Monitoring arrangements

We will review this policy as guidance from the DfE is updated, and as a minimum 3 months by Mr Hutchinson, Principal. At every review, it will be Principal and the Board of Trustees

6. Links with other policies

This addendum links with the following policy and procedure:

- Behaviour policy