

Exclusions Policy - RBAir



Legislation and Guidance that inform this document

- School Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) Regulations 2012
- Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England (2015)

The above do not apply directly to independent schools, or, therefore, to Red Balloon of the Air, but it is essential that Red Balloon of the Air staff who manage referrals are cognisant of legal requirements that apply to schools, academies, and referral units and of the responsibilities given to local authorities.

Other Red Balloon of the Air (RBAir) policies to be read in conjunction with this one

- Behaviour for Learning
- Admissions
- Use of Reasonable Force
- Complaints... should any parent /carer feel that their child has been unfairly treated, they should refer to the complaints policy for guidance on the appropriate action to take.

Statement of intent:

Red Balloon of the Air aims to provide a supportive learning community that enable young people to re-engage with education. Those communities must support all students in their development. In any case where an individual persistently chooses to fail to meet their own responsibility to the community by ignoring / abusing the rights of other members or another member, then, logically, they may not remain within the community. Exclusion may be the chosen response under such circumstance.

Procedures to be followed

If it is deemed necessary to use a fixed term exclusion in working with a student, staff will ensure that the procedures laid down by the relevant local authority are followed.

RBAir will only use fixed term exclusion where staff have failed to enable a young person to modify their behaviour and that behaviour impacts unacceptably upon the rights of other members of the community. The purpose of such an exclusion will be twofold:

- to ensure the rights of all members of the community are upheld;
- to allow time to set up a meeting involving parents, commissioning agents and other involved agencies - at that meeting a clear plan will be set to ensure that all rights are upheld.

RBAir managers will consider moving a student into one to one provision for a period of time if it is felt that such a modification will enable the student to engage appropriately with their learning.

Should the commissioning agent or the student feel that continued attendance would leave other members of the community at discernible risk, ie the 'excluded' student is unable or unwilling to commit to maintaining the rights of others, then it is possible that the student placement will be terminated.

RBAir would only apply permanent exclusion procedures if the student, their parent(s) / carer(s) and the commissioning agent wished to continue placement, but the RBAir headteacher judged that the rights (to learn, to be safe emotionally and physically and to be treated with respect) of a member or members of the community would be placed in jeopardy by the continued attendance of the student.

All days lost to exclusion will be recorded and communicated to the appropriate authority.

Should a parent or carer feel aggrieved that a student has been unfairly denied access to a place at RBAir, they should submit a complaint in line with the Red Balloon of the Air Complaints Policy.

Policy updated (September 2019) by Bob Sproson, Director of Education - for annual review