



L.E.A.D. Academy Trust

Lead • Empower • Achieve • Drive

# **Suspension and Permanent Exclusion Policy**

## Contents

1. Aims.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
2. Legislation and statutory guidance .....	3
3. Definitions .....	4
4. Duties of the Head Teacher .....	4
5. Providing Education .....	4
6. Considering the reinstatement of a pupil .....	8
7. An independent review.....	9
8. Registers.....	11
9. Returning from a fixed-term exclusion.....	11
10. Monitoring arrangements .....	12
11. Links with other policies .....	12

## Policy Information

Document name	Suspensions and Permanent Exclusion Policy
Date approved	AGB autumn term 2024
Date issued	<b>September 2024</b>
Date of review	<b>September 2025</b>

## 1 Aims

L.E.A.D. Academy Trust expects this policy to be implemented by all its member academies. It aims to ensure that:

- The suspension and permanent exclusions process is applied fairly and consistently.
- The suspensions and permanent exclusions process is understood by governors, staff, parents and pupils.
- Pupils in the academy are safe and happy.
- Pupils do not become NEET (not in education, employment or training)
- All suspensions and permanent exclusions are carried out lawfully.

### Off-rolling

The Trust is aware that off-rolling is unlawful. Ofsted defines off-rolling as:

“The practice of removing a pupil from the school roll without a formal, permanent exclusion or by encouraging a parent to remove their child from the school roll, when the removal is primarily in the interests of the school rather than in the best interests of the pupil.”

No Trust academy should suspend or exclude pupils unlawfully by directing them off site, or not allowing pupils to attend the academy:

- Without following the statutory procedure or formally recording the event, e.g., sending them home to 'cool off'.
- Because they have special educational needs and/or a disability (SEND) that the academy feels unable to support.
- Due to poor academic performance.
- Because they haven't met a specific condition, such as attending a reintegration meeting.
- By exerting undue influence on a parent to encourage them to remove their child from the academy.

## 2 Legislation and statutory guidance

This policy is based on statutory guidance from the Department for Education:

The following legislation supports the policy, which outlines schools' powers to suspend and permanently exclude pupils: [Suspension and permanent exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement \(September 2023\)](#).

- Section 51A of the [Education Act 2002](#), as amended by the [Education Act 2011](#)
- [The School Discipline \(Pupil Exclusions and Reviews\) \(England\) Regulations 2012](#)
- Sections 64-68 of the [School Standards and Framework Act 1998](#)

In addition, the policy is based on:

- Part 7, chapter 2 of the [Education and Inspections Act 2006](#), which looks at parental responsibility for excluded pupils.
- Section 579 of [the Education Act 1996](#), which defines 'school day'.
- The [Education \(Provision of Full-Time Education for Excluded Pupils\) \(England\) Regulations 2007](#), as amended by [The Education \(Provision of Full-Time Education for Excluded Pupils\) \(England\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2014](#)

This policy complies with the Trust funding agreement and articles of association.

### 3 Definitions

**Suspension** – when a pupil is removed from the academy for a fixed period. This was previously referred to as a ‘fixed-term exclusion’.

**Permanent exclusion** – when a pupil is removed from the academy permanently and taken off the academy roll. This is sometimes referred to as an ‘exclusion’.

**Off-site direction** – when an Academy Governing Body requires a pupil to attend another education setting temporarily, to improve their behaviour.

**Parent** – any person who has parental responsibility and any person who has care of the child.

**Managed move** – when a pupil is transferred to another school/academy permanently. All parties, including parents and the admission authority for the new school/academy, should consent before a managed move occurs.

### 4 Duties of the Headteacher

#### **Deciding whether to suspend or exclude.**

Only the headteacher, or acting headteacher, can suspend or permanently exclude a pupil from school on disciplinary grounds. The decision can be made in respect of behaviour inside or outside of school. The headteacher will only use permanent exclusion as a last resort. A decision to permanently exclude a pupil will be taken only:

- In response to serious or persistent breaches of the academy’s behaviour policy, **and**
- If allowing the pupil to remain in the academy would seriously harm the education or welfare of others

Before deciding whether to suspend or exclude a pupil, the headteacher will:

- Consider all the relevant facts and evidence on the balance of probabilities, including whether there was any provocation prior to the incident(s) in respect of which suspension or exclusion is being considered.
- Allow the pupil an opportunity to give their version of events.
- Consider whether the pupil has special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)
- Consider whether the pupil is especially vulnerable (e.g., the pupil has a social worker, or is a looked-after child (LAC))
- Consider whether all relevant alternative solutions have been explored, such as off-site direction or managed moves.

The headteacher will consider the views of the pupil, considering their age and understanding, before deciding to suspend or exclude, unless it would not be appropriate to do so.

Pupils who need support to express their views will be allowed to have their views expressed through an advocate, such as a parent or social worker.

The headteacher will not reach their decision until they have given the pupil the opportunity to be heard and will inform the pupil of how any views they expressed were taken into account when making the decision.

The headteacher will also notify parents without delay.

## Informing parents

If a pupil is at risk of suspension or exclusion the headteacher will inform the parents/guardian as early as possible, in order to work together to consider what factors may be affecting the pupil's behaviour, and what further support can be put in place to improve the behaviour.

If the headteacher decides to suspend or exclude a pupil, the parents/guardian will be informed, in person or by telephone, of the period of the suspension or of the exclusion and the reason(s) for it, without delay.

The parents/guardian will also be provided with the following information in writing, without delay:

- The reason(s) for the suspension or permanent exclusion
- The length of the suspension or, for a permanent exclusion, the fact that it is permanent.
- The parents'/guardian's right to make representations about the suspension or permanent exclusion to the Academy Governing Body and, where the pupil is attending alongside parents, how they may be involved in this.
- How any representations should be made
- Where there is a legal requirement for the Academy Governing Body to hold a meeting to consider the reinstatement of a pupil, the parents'/guardian's right to attend the meeting, be represented at the meeting (at their own expense) and bring a friend.
- The parents'/guardian's right to request that the meetings be held remotely, and how and to whom they should make this request.

If the pupil is of compulsory school age, the headteacher will also notify parents without delay and by the end of the afternoon session on the first day their child is suspended or permanently excluded, that:

- For the first 5 school days of an exclusion (or until the start date of any alternative provision or the end of the suspension, where this is earlier), the parents are legally required to ensure that their child is not present in a public place during school hours without a good reason. This will include specifying on which days this duty applies.
- Parents may be given a fixed penalty notice or prosecuted if they fail to do this.
- If alternative provision is being arranged, the following information will be included, if possible:
  - The start date for any provision of full-time education that has been arranged.
  - The start and finish times of any such provision, including the times for morning and afternoon sessions, where relevant
  - The address at which the provision will take place.
  - Any information the pupil needs in order to identify the person they should report to on the first day.

When notifying parents/guardian about a suspension or permanent exclusion, the headteacher should also draw their attention to relevant sources of free and impartial information, including Department for Education Guidance, the local SENDIAS service, Coram's Child Law Advice line, ACE and IPSEA.

If the headteacher does not have all the information about the alternative provision arrangements by the end of the afternoon session on the first day of the suspension or permanent exclusion, they can provide the information at a later date, without delay and no later than 48 hours before the provision is due to start.

The only exception to this is where alternative provision is to be provided before the sixth day of a suspension or permanent exclusion, in which case the school reserves the right to provide the information with less than 48 hours' notice, with parents' consent.

If the headteacher cancels the suspension or permanent exclusion, they will notify the parents/guardian without delay, and provide a reason for the cancellation.

### **Informing the Academy Governing Body**

The headteacher will immediately notify the Academy Governing Body and the Director of Schools of:

- Any permanent exclusion, including when a suspension is followed by a decision to permanently exclude a pupil.
- Any suspension or permanent exclusion which would result in the pupil being suspended or permanently excluded for a total of more than 5 school days (or more than 10 lunchtimes) in a term.
- Any suspension or permanent exclusion which would result in the pupil missing a National Curriculum test or public exam.
- Any suspension or permanent exclusion that has been cancelled, including the reason for the cancellation.

### **Informing the local authority (LA)**

The headteacher will notify the LA of all suspensions and permanent exclusions without delay, regardless of the length of a suspension.

The notification will include:

- The reason(s) for the suspension or permanent exclusion
- The length of a suspension or, for a permanent exclusion, the fact that it is permanent.

For a permanent exclusion, if the pupil lives outside the LA in which the school is located, the headteacher will also, without delay, inform the pupil's 'home authority' of the exclusion and the reason(s) for it.

The headteacher must notify the LA without delay of any cancelled exclusions, including the reason the exclusion was cancelled.

### **Informing the pupil's social worker and/or virtual school head (VSH)**

If a:

- **Pupil with a social worker** is at risk of suspension or permanent exclusion, the Headteacher will inform **the social worker** as early as possible.
- **Pupil who is a looked-after child (LAC)** is at risk of suspension or exclusion, the Headteacher will inform **the VSH** as early as possible.

This is in order to work together to consider what factors may be affecting the pupil's behaviour, and what further support can be put in place to improve the behaviour.

If the Headteacher decides to suspend or permanently exclude a pupil with a social worker / a pupil who is looked after, they will inform the pupil's social worker / the VSH, as appropriate, without delay, that:

- They have decided to suspend or permanently exclude the pupil.
- The reason(s) for the decision

- The length of the suspension or, for a permanent exclusion, the fact that it is permanent.
- The suspension or permanent exclusion affects the pupil's ability to sit a National Curriculum test or public exam (where relevant)
- They have decided to cancel a suspension or permanent exclusion, and why (where relevant)

The notification will also include the following information:

- For the first 5 school days of an exclusion (or until the start date of any alternative provision or the end of the suspension, where this is earlier), it is a legal requirement that the child is not present in a public place during school hours without a good reason. This will include specifying on which days this duty applies.
- Failure to comply with this requirement is a criminal offence may result in a fixed penalty notice or prosecution.
- If alternative provision is being arranged, the following information will be included, if possible:
  - The start date for any provision of full-time education that has been arranged.
  - The start and finish times of any such provision, including the times for morning and afternoon sessions, where relevant
  - The address at which the provision will take place.
  - Any information the pupil needs in order to identify the person they should report to on the first day.

The social worker / VSH will be invited to any meeting of the Academy Governing Body about the suspension or permanent exclusion. This is so they can provide advice on how the pupil's background and/or circumstances may have influenced the circumstances of their suspension or permanent exclusion. The social worker should also help ensure safeguarding needs and risks and the pupil's welfare are taken into account. The social worker / VSH will be enabled to join the meeting remotely.

## **Cancelling suspensions and permanent exclusions**

The Headteacher may cancel a suspension or permanent exclusion that has already begun, but this can only be done where it has not yet been reviewed by the Academy Governing Body. Where there is a cancellation (also known as withdrawing or rescinding):

- The parents, Academy Governing Body and LA will be notified without delay.
- Where relevant, any social worker and VSH will be notified without delay.
- The notification must provide the reason for the cancellation.
- The governing body's duty to hold a meeting and consider reinstatement ceases.
- Parents will be offered the opportunity to meet with the Headteacher to discuss the cancellation.
- The pupil will be allowed back in the academy without delay.

Any days spent out of school as a result of any exclusion, prior to the cancellation, will count towards the maximum of 45 school days permitted in any school year.

A permanent exclusion cannot be cancelled if the pupil has already been excluded for more than 45 school days in a school year or if they will have been so by the time the cancellation takes effect.

## **5 Providing education.**

### **During the first 5 days of a suspension or permanent exclusion**

During the first 5 days of a suspension, if the pupil is not attending alternative (AP) provision, the headteacher will take steps to ensure that achievable and accessible work is set and marked for the pupil. If the pupil has a special educational need or disability, the headteacher will make sure that reasonable adjustments are made to the provision where necessary.

If the pupil is looked after or if they have a social worker, the academy will work with the LA to arrange AP from the first day following the suspension or permanent exclusion. Where this isn't possible, the academy will take reasonable steps to set and mark work for the pupil, including the use of online pathways.

### **Sixth Day Provision**

For any suspension of more than 5 school days, the AGB will arrange suitable full-time education for the pupil. This provision will begin no later than the sixth day of the suspension.

Every attempt to provide local arrangements should be explored to ensure a pupil receives full time education as soon as is practicable if it is likely that a longer suspension is likely (for example, during a period of investigation where more information is being gathered).

*For secondary academies only:*

Provision does not have to be arranged for pupils in the final year of compulsory education who do not have any further public examinations to sit. (See para.50)

### **The Local Authority**

For permanent exclusions, the LA is responsible for arranging suitable full-time education to begin no later than the sixth day of the permanent exclusion.

For pupils who are LAC or have social workers, the LA and the academy will work together arrange suitable full-time education to begin from the first day of the exclusion.

## **6 Considering the reinstatement of a pupil.**

The Academy Governing Body has a duty to consider parents'/guardians' representations about a suspension or permanent exclusion. It has a duty to consider the reinstatement of a suspended or permanently excluded pupil in certain circumstances.

Responsibilities for considering representations regarding exclusions are delegated to an impartial panel of three governors (this may be amended in exceptional circumstances). All reference to the Academy Governing Body in this section should be read as including reference to a panel to whom the consideration of any matter has been delegated as per the Trust Articles of Association.

[The Academy Governing Body will meet to consider and decide on the reinstatement of a suspended or permanently excluded pupil within 15 school days of receiving the notice of the suspension or exclusion if:

- The exclusion is permanent.
- It is a suspension which would bring the pupil's total number of days of suspension to more than 15 in a term.
- It would result in a pupil missing a public examination.



Where the pupil has been suspended, and the suspension does not bring the pupil's total number of days of suspension to more than 5 in a term, the Academy Governing Body must consider any representations made by parents. However, it is not required to arrange a meeting with parents, and it cannot direct the Headteacher to reinstate the pupil.

Where the pupil has been suspended for more than 5 days but less than 16 days in a single term, and the parents make representations to the board, the Academy Governing Body will consider and decide on the reinstatement of a suspended pupil within 50 days of receiving notice of the suspension. If the parents do not make representations, the board is not required to meet, and it cannot direct the Headteacher to reinstate the pupil.

Where a suspension or permanent exclusion would result in a pupil missing a public exam or National Curriculum test, the Academy Governing Body will, as far as reasonably practicable, consider and decide on the reinstatement of the pupil before the date of the exam or test. If this is not practicable, the Academy Governing Body may consider the suspension or permanent exclusion and decide whether or not to reinstate the pupil.

The following parties will be invited to a meeting of the Academy Governing Body and allowed to make representations or share information:

- Parents, or the pupil if they are 18 or over (and, where requested, a representative or friend)
- The pupil, if they are aged 17 or younger and it would be appropriate to their age and understanding (and, where requested, a representative or friend)
- The Headteacher
- The pupil's social worker if they have one.
- The VSH, if the pupil is looked after.

Where possible, the documents should be sent to all parties at least five school days before the review meeting.

Governing body meetings can be held remotely at the request of parents or guardian. See section 9 for more details on remote access to meetings.

The Academy Governing Body will try to arrange the meeting within the statutory time limits set out above and must try to have it at a time that suits all relevant parties. However, its decision will not be invalid simply on the grounds that it was not made within these time limits.

After hearing the representations [The Academy Governing Body can either:

- Decline to reinstate the pupil, or
- Direct the reinstatement of the pupil immediately, or on a particular date (except in cases where the board cannot do this – see earlier in this section)

In reaching a decision, [the Academy Governing Body will consider:

- Whether the decision to suspend or permanently exclude was lawful, reasonable, and procedurally fair.
- Whether the Headteacher followed their legal duties
- The welfare and safeguarding of the pupil and their peers.
- Any evidence that was presented to the Academy Governing Body

They will decide whether or not a fact is true 'on the balance of probabilities'.

Minutes will be taken of the meeting, and a record kept of the evidence that was considered. The outcome will also be recorded on the pupil's educational record, and copies of relevant papers will be kept with this record.

[The Academy Governing Body will notify, in writing, the following stakeholders of its decision, along with reasons for its decision, without delay:

- The parents, or the pupil, if they are 18 or older.
- The headteacher
- The pupil's social worker if they have one.
- The VSH, if the pupil is looked after.
- The local authority
- The pupil's home authority if it differs from the academy's.

Where an exclusion is permanent and the Academy Governing Body has decided not to reinstate the pupil, the notification of decision will also include the following:

- The fact that it is a permanent exclusion.
- Notice of parents'/guardian's right to ask for the decision to be reviewed by an independent review panel.
- The date by which an application for an independent review must be made (15 school days from the date on which notice in writing of the governing board's decision is given to parents)
- The name and address to which an application for a review and any written evidence should be submitted.
- That a request to hold the meeting remotely can be made and how and to whom the request should be directed.
- That any application should set out the grounds on which it is being made and that, where appropriate, it should include reference to how the pupil's special educational needs or disability (SEND) are considered to be relevant to the permanent exclusion.
- That, regardless of whether the excluded pupil has recognised SEND, parents have a right to require the academy trust to appoint a SEND expert to advise the review panel.
- Details of the role of the SEND expert and that there would be no cost to parents for this appointment.
- That parents must make clear if they wish for a SEND expert to be appointed in any application for a review.
- That parents may, at their own expense, appoint someone to make written and/or oral representations to the panel, and parents may also bring a friend to the review.
- That, if parents believe that the permanent exclusion has occurred as a result of unlawful discrimination, they may make a claim under the Equality Act 2010 to the first-tier tribunal (special educational needs and disability), in the case of disability discrimination, or the county court, in the case of other forms of discrimination. Also, that any claim of discrimination made under these routes should be lodged within 6 months of the date on which the discrimination is alleged to have taken place.

## An independent review

If parents apply for an independent review within the legal timeframe, the Trust will arrange for an independent panel to review the decision of the Academy Governing Body not to reinstate a permanently excluded pupil.

Applications for an independent review must be made within 15 days of notice being given to the parents by the exclusion panel of its decision to not reinstate a pupil, **or**, if after this time, within 15 school days of the final determination of a claim of discrimination under the Equality Act 2010 regarding the permanent exclusion. Any applications made outside of this timeframe will be rejected. Independent reviews can be held remotely at the request of parents/guardian. See section 9 for more details on remote access to meetings.

An independent review panel (IRP) of 3 or 5 members will be constituted with representatives from each of the categories below. Where a 5-member panel is constituted, 2 members will come from the academy governor's category and 2 members will come from the Headteacher category.

- A lay member to chair the panel who has not worked in any school in a paid capacity, disregarding any experience as a governor or volunteer.
- Governors who have served as a governor for at least 12 consecutive months in the last 5 years, provided they have not been teachers or Headteachers during this time.
- Headteachers or individuals who have been a Headteacher within the last 5 years.

A person may not serve as a member of a review panel if they:

- Are a member/director of the academy trust, or Academy Governing Body of the excluding academy.
- Are the Headteacher of the excluding academy or have held this position in the last 5 years.
- Are an employee of the Trust, or the Academy Governing Body, of the excluding academy (unless they are employed as a Headteacher at another school).
- Have, or at any time have had, any connection with the Trust, academy, Academy Governing Body, parents or pupil, or the incident leading to the exclusion, which might reasonably be taken to raise doubts about their impartiality.
- Have not had the required training within the last 2 years.

The panel must consider the interests and circumstances of the pupil, including the circumstances in which the pupil was permanently excluded, and have regard to the interests of other pupils and people working at the academy.

Taking into account the pupil's age and understanding, the pupil or their parents will be made aware of their right to attend and participate in the review meeting and the pupil should be enabled to make representations on their own behalf, should they desire to.

Where a SEND expert is present, the panel must seek and have regard to the SEND expert's view of how SEND may be relevant to the pupil's permanent exclusion.

Where a social worker is present, the panel must have regard to any representation made by the social worker of how the pupil's experiences, needs, safeguarding risks and/or welfare may be relevant to the pupil's permanent exclusion.

Where a VSH is present, the panel must have regard to any representation made by the social worker of how any of the child's background, education and safeguarding needs were considered by the

Headteacher in the lead up to the permanent exclusion or are relevant to the pupil's permanent exclusion.

Following its review, the independent panel will decide to do 1 of the following:

- Uphold the Academy Governing Body's decision.
- Recommend that the Academy Governing Body reconsiders reinstatement.
- Quash the Academy Governing Body's decision and direct that they reconsider reinstatement (only if it judges that the decision was flawed)

New evidence may be presented, though the academy cannot introduce new reasons for the permanent exclusion or the decision not to reinstate. The panel must disregard any new reasons that are introduced.

In deciding whether the decision was flawed, and therefore whether to quash the decision not to reinstate, the panel must only take account of the evidence that was available to the Academy Governing Body at the time of making its decision. This includes any evidence that the panel considers would, or should, have been available to the Academy Governing Body and that it ought to have considered if it had been acting reasonably.

If evidence is presented that the panel considers it is unreasonable to expect the Academy Governing Body to have been aware of at the time of its decision, the panel can take account of the evidence when deciding whether to recommend that the Academy Governing Body reconsider reinstatement.

The panel's decision can be decided by a majority vote. In the case of a tied decision, the chair has the casting vote.

Once the panel has reached its decision, the panel will notify all parties in writing without delay. This notification will include:

- The panel's decision and the reasons for it
- Where relevant, details of any financial readjustment or payment to be made if the Academy Governing Body does not subsequently decide to offer to reinstate the pupil within 10 days.
- Any information that the panel has directed the Academy Governing Body to place on the pupil's educational record.

## **Registers**

A pupil's name will be removed from the academy admissions register if:

- 15 days have passed since the parents were notified of the Exclusion Panel's decision to not reinstate the pupil and no application has been made for an independent review panel, or
- The parents have stated in writing that they will not be applying for an independent review panel.

Where an application for an independent review has been made, the Academy Governing Body will wait until that review has concluded before removing a pupil's name from the register.

Where alternative provision has been made for a suspended or permanently excluded pupil and they attend it, code B (education off-site) or code D (dual registration) will be used on the attendance register.

Where suspended or permanently excluded pupils are not attending alternative provision, code E (absent) will be used.

## **Making a return to the LA**

Where a pupil's name is to be removed from the school admissions register because of a permanent exclusion, the school will make a return to the LA. The return will include:

- The pupil's full name
- The full name and address of any parent with whom the pupil normally resides.
- At least 1 telephone number at which any parent with whom the pupil normally resides can be contacted in an emergency.
- The grounds upon which their name is to be deleted from the admissions register (i.e., permanent exclusion)
- Details of the new school the pupil will attend, including the name of that school and the first date when the pupil attended or is due to attend there, if the parents have told the school the pupil is moving to another school.
- Details of the pupil's new address, including the new address, the name of the parent(s) the pupil is going to live there with, and the date when the pupil is going to start living there, if the parents have informed the school that the pupil is moving house.

This return must be made as soon as the grounds for removal are met and no later than the removal of the pupil's name.

## **Returning from a suspension or following reinstatement**

### **Reintegration strategy**

Following suspension or reinstatement, the academy will put in place a strategy to help the pupil reintegrate successfully into academy life and full-time education.

Where necessary, the academy will work with third-party organisations to identify whether the pupil has any unmet special educational and/or health needs.

The following measures may be implemented, as part of the strategy, to ensure a successful reintegration into academy life:

- Maintaining regular contact during the suspension and welcoming the pupil back to the academy.
- Regular reviews with the pupil and parent to address any concerns at an early stage.
- Inform the pupil and parent of external support.

Part-time timetables will not generally be used as a tool to manage behaviour and, if used, will be put in place for the minimum time necessary.

The reintegration strategy will be regularly reviewed and adapted where necessary throughout the reintegration process in collaboration with the pupil, parents, and other relevant parties.

### **Reintegration meetings**

The academy will explain the reintegration strategy to the pupil in a reintegration meeting before or on the pupil's return. During the meeting the academy will communicate to the pupil that they are getting a fresh start and that they are a valued member of the academy community.

The pupil, parents, a member of senior staff, and any other relevant staff will be invited to attend the meeting.

The academy expects all returning pupils and their parents to attend their reintegration meeting, but pupils who do not attend will not be prevented from returning to the classroom.

## **Remote access to meetings**

Parents, or guardians can request that an Academy Governing Body meeting, or independent review panel be held remotely. If the parents/guardian do not express a preference, the meeting will be held in person.

In cases of extraordinary or unforeseen circumstances, which mean it is not reasonably practicable for the meeting to be held in person, the meeting will be held remotely.

Remotely accessed meetings are subject to the same procedural requirements as in-person meetings.

The academy governing body and the academy should make sure that the following conditions are met before agreeing to let a meeting proceed remotely:

- All the participants have access to the technology which will allow them to hear, speak, see and be seen.
- All the participants will be able participate fully.
- The remote meeting can be held fairly and transparently.

Social workers and the VSH always have the option of joining remotely, whether the meeting is being held in person or not, as long as they can meet the conditions for remote access listed above.

The meeting will be rearranged to an in-person meeting without delay if technical issues arise that can't be reasonably resolved and:

- Compromise the ability of participants to contribute effectively, or
- Prevent the meeting from running fairly and transparently.

## **Monitoring arrangements**

The academy will collect data on the following:

- Attendance, permanent exclusions and suspensions
- Use of pupil referral units, off-site directions and managed moves
- Anonymous surveys of staff, pupils, governors and other stakeholders on their perceptions and experiences

The data will be analysed every term by Mrs Carlisle, headteacher. Mrs Carlisle, headteacher, will report back to the governors.

The data will be analysed from a variety of perspectives including:

- At academy level
- By age group
- By time of day/week/term
- By protected characteristic

The academy will use the results of this analysis to make sure it is meeting its duties under the Equality Act 2010. If any patterns or disparities between groups of pupils are identified by this analysis, the academy will review its policies in order to tackle it.

L.E.A.D. Academy Trust will work with its academies to consider this data, and to analyse whether there are patterns across the Trust, recognising that numbers in any 1 academy may be too low to allow for meaningful statistical analysis.

This policy will be reviewed by Mrs Carlisle, headteacher, annually. At every review, the policy will be shared with the governing body.

### **Monitoring and analysing suspensions and exclusions data**

The Academy Governing Body will challenge and evaluate the data on the academy's use of suspension, exclusion, off-site direction to alternative provision and managed moves.

The Academy Governing Body will consider:

- How effectively and consistently the academy's behaviour policy is being implemented.
- The register and absence codes
- Instances where pupils receive repeat suspensions.
- Interventions in place to support pupils at risk of suspension or permanent exclusion.
- Any variations in the rolling average of permanent exclusions, to understand why this is happening, and to make sure they are only used when necessary.
- Timing of moves and permanent exclusions, and whether there are any patterns, including any indications which may highlight where policies or support are not working.
- The characteristics of suspended and permanently excluded pupils, and why this is taking place.
- Whether the placements of pupils directed off-site into alternative provision are reviewed at sufficient intervals to assure that the education is achieving its objectives and that pupils are benefiting from it
- The cost implications of directing pupils off-site.

Within 14 days of receiving a request, the AGB will provide the secretary of state with information about any suspensions or exclusions within the last 12 months.

### **Links with other policies**

This exclusions policy is linked to academy.

- Behaviour policy
- SEND policy and information report.
- Equality policy