

Blossom Federation

Daubeney, Sebright and Lauriston



Exclusion & Suspension Policy



Lauriston School



Suspension Policy Reviews (Version Control)

Review Date	Changes made/Details of action plan	Next Review Due Date	By Whom
13.03.2018	First Published Version	Spring 2021	Ms Terry Corpe
24.03.21	Second Version	Spring 2024	Mr R Warren
01.09.22	Third Version Referral to 'exclusion' as 'suspension'	Spring 2024	Mr R Warren

Rationale

At The Blossom Federation of Daubeney, Sebright & Lauriston Primary Schools, we value everyone as an individual, capable of growth, change and development. Our relationships are underpinned by the principles of justice, equality, mutual respect, fairness and consistency. We have high expectations that support the development of our pupils as effective and responsible citizens.

We are committed to a positive behaviour policy which encourages children to make positive behaviour choices and learn from their mistakes. On rare occasions circumstances may result in a situation that requires some form of Suspension either from class or external. These are some circumstances may lead to Suspension:

- physical assault of another pupil or member of staff;
- continuous disruptive behaviour;
- verbal assault including racist, homophobic or transgender abuse;
- destruction of property.

Our approach

At the Blossom Federation of Daubeney, Sebright & Lauriston Primary Schools, we aim to avoid the need for external Suspension and regard this as a last resort in managing situations. We always aim to deal with behaviour using a positive approach and therefore this policy should be read in connection with our Positive Behaviour Policy.

To enable us to support pupils' behaviour and social & emotional wellbeing we offer a tiered approach.

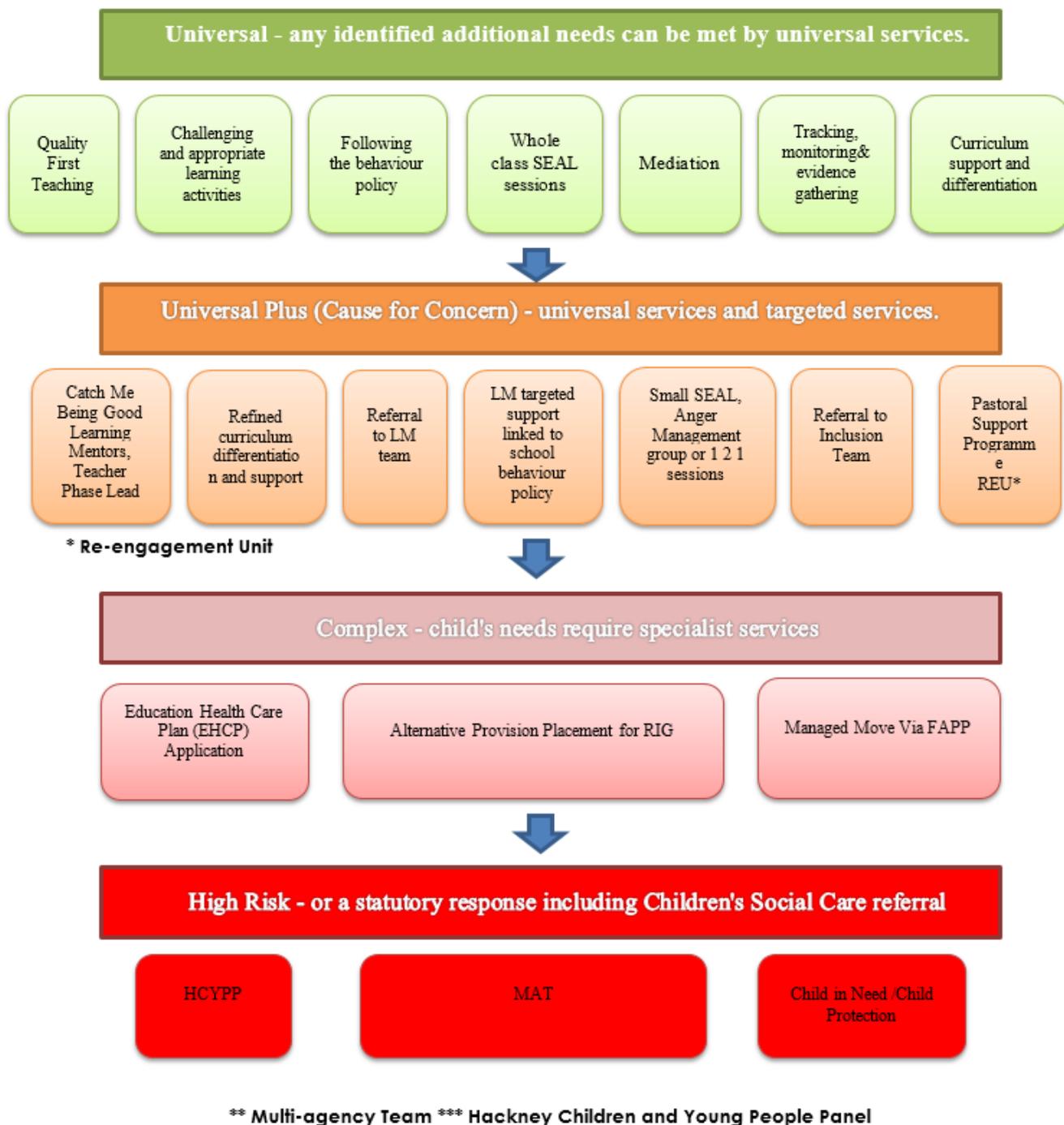
(See diagram on next page.)

Vulnerable Pupils

We recognise that our most vulnerable pupils (Special Educational Needs, Look After Children and those being supported by Children's Social Care) often find the school environment difficult to navigate. Vulnerable pupils need to be given every opportunity to be successful in school and individual risk assessments must be undertaken using our Safeguarding and Child Protection Risk Assessment for Children with Challenging Behaviour form.

All avenues must be explored to support vulnerable pupils so they can remain in school and have access to the full curriculum, and avoid disciplinary sanctions leading to Suspension. We will engage with all agencies involved with the child and family to ensure that support is given not only in school but at home and in the community. However, we must also ensure that all people within our community are safe and feel safe. We cannot allow other pupils' physical safety, mental health and well-being be negatively affected by any pupil and will need to take appropriate steps to safeguard the impact of behaviours on others.

Tiered Model of Support and Intervention



Suspension

We do not wish to exclude any child from school but sometimes this may be necessary. Therefore when all reasonable strategies have been attempted and have failed, including internal sanctions and the application of any available support, Suspension may be the final option for the school.

Fixed Term Suspension

Fixed term Suspension could be from one day up to two weeks depending on previous Suspensions or the actions leading up to the Suspension. Parents/carers will be informed by telephone and then

receive a letter outlining the reasons for the Suspension, their responsibility during the Suspension period and how to appeal against the Suspension. The Hackney Education Suspension Team will also be notified of the Suspension and the reasons for the Suspension.

Parents/carers have responsibility for their child from the first to the fifth day of Suspension and the child cannot be present in any public place during school hours without justification, e.g. hospital appointment. From the sixth day of Suspension an alternative education provision will be organised by the school.

If a child is excluded for 15 days or more in any term then an automatic meeting with the Governing Body's Discipline committee and parents/carers will take place within 15 working days to discuss the Suspensions.

Permanent Suspension

Permanent Suspension is the ultimate sanction that a school can impose on a pupil. The decision to permanently exclude a pupil will only be taken as a last resort, and in response to serious, or persistent breaches, of the school's behaviour policy, and where allowing the pupil to remain in school would harm the welfare of pupils and staff within the school.

We may have exhausted all support strategies available prior to a permanent Suspension. However there could be an exceptional circumstance where a one off incident could lead to a permanent Suspension.

As with fixed term Suspensions the parents/carers will be informed of the schools decision by telephone and a letter will be sent to the parents/carers outlining the reasons for the Suspension, parental responsibility and appeal process. This information will also be shared with Hackney Learning Trust's Suspension Team. An alternative placement will be organised for the pupil from the 6th day of Suspension.

The decision for permanent Suspension will be shared with the Chair of Governors. The parents/carers will automatically be invited to a Governing Body's Discipline Committee meeting to discuss the reasons for the Suspension and to give any reasons why they disagree with the Suspension. A local authority representative from Hackney Education will be invited to the meeting.

If the permanent Suspension is upheld by the Governing Body's Discipline Committee then the parents/carers have the right to request a review of the decision by an Independent Review Panel. This needs to be done in writing within 15 working days. Hackney Education Team will provide guidance for any parent/carers on the information that should be included in a written request.

Ratified: 01.09.22