

What can the IRP decide?

The IRP can do the following:

- Uphold the exclusion decision
- Recommend that the governing body reconsidered their decision
- Quash (reject) the decision and direct that the Governing Body considers the exclusion again

Getting your child back to school

Most pupils who are permanently excluded from school are subsequently admitted to another school. The Education Access Officer will work with you to find a place at another school for your child and will support him/her to settle in.

Exceptionally, for some pupils it may be more appropriate to attend alternative educational provision. This would be discussed with you.

In the case of a permanent exclusion the school could still allow the pupil to sit an exam in another setting if it was in the first 5 days following the exclusion. If it was from the 6th day the Local Authority would liaise with the home school to see if they could support the pupil to sit the exam.



Contact points for further information

If you require further information on exclusions please use the following details:

The Education Access Team

Tarvin Meadow Professional Centre, Meadow Close
Tarvin, CH3 8LY

Tel: **01244 972 825** or email:
exclusions@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

The Children's Legal Centre

The centre provides free legal advice and information to parents.

Tel: **0300 330 5485**
Visit: www.childlawadvice.org.uk

If your child has special educational needs you can contact :

Information Advice and Support Service (formerly known as the Parent Partnership Service)

Visit: www.westcheshirelocaloffer.co.uk
Tel: **0300 123 7001**
Email: iasservice@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

or you can also contact

Edge

Email: is@edgeinc.co.uk
Tel: **07947 100 727**

Further guidance can be found at the following website:
www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/behaviour/exclusion

Further guidance and a useful questions and answers sheet can be found at the following website:
www.westcheshirelocaloffer.co.uk

Cheshire West & Chester Council

Permanent exclusion from school

Information for Parents and Carers



This leaflet has been designed to help you understand what it means for your child to be permanently excluded from school and what your rights are. It covers all schools maintained by Cheshire West and Chester Council, including Church Aided, Foundation and Academy, but not Independent schools.



What is a permanent exclusion?

This is a formal step taken by the Head Teacher in response to serious breaches of the school's behavior policy. The Head Teacher has made a decision that your child cannot return to the school.

Where will your child go to school?

From the 6th day of the permanent exclusion the Local Authority will provide suitable full-time education. A member of the Local Authority called an Education Access Officer will be in touch with you about this.

What does the education officer do?

The Education Access Officer will/can:

- Explain your rights and responsibilities through the process
- Give you information about a permanent exclusion
- Ensure that your child receives an education
- Attend the governing body's discipline committee (GDC) to give advice on how other CNAC schools might deal with similar problems
- Attend an Independent Review hearing



What information should you receive from school?

You should be told immediately about the exclusion ideally by telephone and then followed up by a letter.

The letter should explain:

- The fact that this is a permanent exclusion
- The date it takes effect any relevant previous history
- The reason for the exclusion
- Your right to make representation to the Governing Body's Discipline Committee (GDC)
- Who you should contact if you wish to put your case forward
- Your right to see your child's record
- The latest date the GDC must meet to consider the exclusion
- Contact details for Coram Legal Centre

What is the role of the governing body's discipline committee (GDC)?

The GDC meet to review the exclusion. The GDC has the power to agree that the Head Teacher's decision was right or decide that your child should not be permanently excluded.

You can take a friend or legal representative to the GDC and your child can attend. You can all give your views.

All those concerned with your child's exclusion put their views forward. You will receive statements and any evidence 5 days prior to the GDC

The GDC must meet within 15 school days of the permanent exclusion. The outcome of the GDC will be given to you in a letter and if the exclusion is upheld the letter will tell you how you can appeal to the Independent Review Panel (IRP).

You have 15 school days to request the Independent Review.

