

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

**Briefing for Children and Young People Portfolio Holder
20 March 2012**

**PERMANENT EXCLUSIONS FROM
BROMLEY SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

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1. Summary

- 1.1 Permanent exclusions from Bromley secondary schools had reduced from 86 in 2007/08 to 53 in 2008/09, 39 in 2009/10 and 44 in 2010/11. This reduction followed the decision by the CYP Portfolio Holder in June 2008 to establish respite provision. Head Teachers had told the Local Authority that they felt they had to exclude pupils because there was no alternative available to them.
- 1.2 In the first half of the current academic year there have been 37 permanent exclusions from Bromley Secondary Schools, this compares with 16 in the same period of the previous academic year.

PERMANENT EXCLUSIONS: AUTUMN TERM 2010 TO SPRING HALF-TERM 2011 AND AUTUMN TERM 2011 TO SPRING HALF-TERM 2012

School	AUTUMN		SPRING		TOTALS	
	10 11	11 12	10 11	11 12	10 11	11 12
Beaverwood						
Bishop Justus		1				1
Bullers Wood		2				2
Harris, Bromley				1		1
Charles Darwin		1		1		2
Coopers	4	4	1	1	5	5
Darrick Wood						
Hayes						
Harris, Beckenham	2	7	2		4	7
Kemnal Technology		3	1	1	1	4
Langley Park Boys		2				2
Langley Park Girls		2				2
Newstead Wood						
St Olaves						
The Priory	3	5		2	3	7
Ravens Wood		2				2
Ravensbourne	1		2	2	3	2
					16	37

1.3 The reasons for the 37 permanent exclusions so far this academic year are:

Defiant Behaviour	–	23
Physical Assault against a Pupil	–	5
Physical Assault against an Adult	–	3
Verbal Aggressive/Threatening Behaviour towards as Adult	–	2
Offensive Weapon (in possession of)	–	3
Drugs/Alcohol (in possession of)	–	1

1.4 The Local Authority has a statutory duty to ensure that all permanently excluded pupils resident in the Borough receive full-time education from the sixth day following exclusion. This also applies to resident pupils excluded from out-borough schools. In almost all cases this duty is discharged by excluded pupils attending Kingswood, the Borough's secondary pupil referral unit.

1.5 As of 1 March 2012, there are 85 excluded pupils on roll at Kingswood. This compares to 54 at the same time in 2011.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 It is only the head teacher who can decide whether to exclude a pupil, for a fixed term or permanently, in line with the school's behaviour policy and taking into account all the circumstances, the evidence available and the need to balance the interests of the pupil against those of the whole school community.

2.2 Parents have the right to make representations to the governing body (or discipline committee) about an exclusion, and the governing body must review the exclusion decision in certain circumstances, which include all permanent exclusions. Where a governing body upholds a permanent exclusion parents currently have the right to appeal the decision to an independent appeals panel.

2.3 Schools are under a duty to provide suitable full-time education for an excluded pupil from the sixth school day of any fixed period exclusion of more than five consecutive school days. Local authorities are under a duty to provide suitable full-time education from the sixth school day of a permanent exclusion.

2.4 Parents must take responsibility for their child, if excluded, and ensure that they are not in a public place without good reason during school hours within the first five school days of any exclusion. If they do not, they may be issued with a penalty notice of £50 (rising to £100).

2.5 Parents must also ensure that their child attends the suitable full-time education provided by the school governing body or the local authority from the sixth day of exclusion.

2.6 Parents are expected to attend a reintegration interview following any fixed-period exclusion of more than five days from secondary school. Failure to attend may make it more likely that the court will impose a parenting order if the school or local authority apply for one.

2.7 Specific guidance on exclusion is provided by the Department for Education's guidance "Improving behaviour and attendance: guidance on exclusion from schools and Pupil Referral Units, 2008."