

Early End of Placement and Suspension of Provision Policy

St Piers School & College (St Piers) recognises on occasions educational placements need to be reviewed in line with changes to pupils'/students' presentation which falls outside the Educational Health & Care Plan (EHCP) agreed on admission. This policy is aligned with our values to ensure the young person remains at the centre of everything we do. This policy works alongside our Annual Reviews and reflects the National Non-Maintained Sector guidance.

Definition for fixed term suspension of provision:

A suspension of provision is when a student is suspended from attending some or all of their provision at St Piers for a fixed period of days. For a day student, this may mean being suspended from attending their normal school or college provision. For a residential student, where the concerns giving rise to the need for suspension from their residential setting, the student may be able to continue to attend their education provision as a day student.

Definition for end of placement:

An early end of placement is when an education placement is ended earlier than anticipated or planned. This should not be confused with any decisions made to extensions which are a separate matter and covered in our Admissions Policy.

In all events suspension of provision or the early ending of a placement will only be considered as a last resort where it is judged that all other avenues, including the use of a range of support strategies (e.g. reasonable adjustments and risk reduction planning) have been implemented to attempt to improve the situation, and have all been exhausted.

A students could be suspended from their provision for a variety of reasons, with some examples below, but this is not an exhaustive list:

- Changes to the students physical and/or mental wellbeing which means St Piers staff need time to adapt our provision to enable safe attendance
- Violence to other students or to staff either physical or verbal

- Significant threats of physical violence to staff and/or other students, or in some other way placing the safety of staff or students at risk
- Serious or persistent bullying or racial/sexual intimidation
- Serious damage to property
- Dealing in and/or supplying drugs or other dangerous substances within St Piers
- Any other action or incident which is viewed by the Executive Principal as being of a serious nature. This will include misuse of social media or the internet (i.e. trolling, harassment, downloading indecent images).

The organisation may utilise fixed term suspension of provision up to a maximum of 45 days in one academic year, or internal suspension (where the student is asked to not partake in certain activities on campus for a period of time). These are not to be considered an early end to a placement unless the maximum 45 days has been met.

Placements could be ended early for a wide variety of reasons some examples of which are below, but this is not an exhaustive list.

- The student themselves expresses a clear desire that they are not happy with their educational placement and want to move on
- Changes to the students physical and/or mental wellbeing which means St Piers staff no longer have the appropriate skills and/or experience to support them and it is not possible to make the necessary adaptations to provision
- Violence to other students or to staff either physical or verbal
- Significant threats of physical violence to staff and/or other students, or in some other way placing the safety of staff or students at risk
- Serious or persistent bullying or racial/sexual intimidation
- Serious damage to property
- Dealing in and/or supplying drugs or other dangerous substances within St Piers
- Any other action or incident which is viewed by the Executive Principal as being of a serious nature. This will include misuse of social media or the internet (i.e. trolling, harassment, downloading indecent images).

If a young person is clearly demonstrating that they no longer wish to be in their placement through their behaviours or by putting others at risk. St Piers will work with the young person, their family and other relevant parties to consider any additional support before any decision is made about ending a placement.

Suspension of Provision or Early Ending of Placement on urgent medical grounds

On very rare occasions it may become necessary to temporarily suspend or end provision;

- due to a sudden change of medical/physical/mental state of a student such that St Piers is temporarily unable to maintain provision in a way that is safe for the wellbeing of the student or

- where the medical/physical/mental state of the student is significantly different at the start of their placement from their state at the time of assessment or offer of a place, such that planning for their provision has not prepared staff for the presented state.
- Where the medical team state that they are not able to safely manage the medical needs of a student.

In such circumstances, St Piers will work to make such preparations and adaptations as are necessary to recommence the student placement as quickly as possible, unless it is decided that St Piers can no longer meet the needs of the student in a way that is compatible with their health, safety, wellbeing and best interests, at which point the End of Placement procedure would be invoked.

If there is considered to be a continuing significant risk that a student's placement might be permanently ended then this will be communicated in writing to the relevant authorities and, as appropriate, the student and their parents, carers or guardians. The placing authority, student and their parents/carers/guardians will be kept informed at all stages.

- In the event of a **permanent** ending of placement or a placement breaking down, staff at St Piers will be proactive in supporting the relevant authorities, the student and their family to find an alternative placement.
 - This help might include identifying potential alternative placements, providing information to those organisations subject to the relevant information governance requirements, and facilitating assessment meetings with the student.

Where a student's placement is being ended or suspended temporarily the organisation will ensure this is communicated accurately and in a timely way and do everything possible to facilitate arrangements for transition being put in place, with the safety of the student remaining the priority at all times.

Where moving onto a new placement, timely advice on managing the student's epilepsy, behaviour, educational and care needs will be provided to the student's new placement, subject to the relevant Information Governance requirements.

The End of Placement Policy is designed to be used with reference to the Positive Behaviour Support Strategy and takes cognisance of statutory guidance on 'Exclusions from Schools' issued by the Department for Education (July 2017).

Within this policy and the associated procedure, the end of placement can refer to circumstances that prevail in either an education or residential setting.

This policy is agreed by the Educational Governing Body and Executive Principal and will be implemented by the Education Directorates.

Date: September 2025



Signed:

Jeremy Law
 Executive Principal

Date of next review: January 2027

Version table

Creation:- Naomi Bradley

Approved by:- Richard Gargon and Rosemarie Pardington

| <u>Version No.</u> | <u>Date of changes</u> | <u>Reason for change</u> | <u>Changes made by</u> |
|--------------------|------------------------|--|------------------------|
| 2 | 29/03/22 | N/A | Naomi Bradley |
| 3 | 10/05/22 | Request from Governors to include 'Early' End of Placement | Naomi Bradley |
| 4 | 06/12/24 | Review and minor changes to text only | Sue Etheridge |
| 5 | 04/09/25 | Revised to align with revised procedure and revised Behaviour Policy | Jeremy Law |
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