



Blue Sky Learning

Placement Review, Suspension and Placement Termination Policy

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1. Policy Statement

Blue Sky Learning is committed to maintaining placements wherever possible through relational practice, early intervention, individualised support and effective multi-agency working.

We recognise that many learners attending Blue Sky Learning have experienced barriers to education, trauma, adverse childhood experiences, special educational needs and social, emotional and mental health needs. Our approach focuses on understanding behaviour, reducing barriers and helping learners achieve positive outcomes.

Placement review, suspension and placement termination are measures of last resort. They will only be considered when all reasonable support strategies have been explored or where there is an immediate risk to the safety and wellbeing of learners, staff or others.

2. Legislation and Guidance

This policy is informed by:

- Education Act 2002
- Equality Act 2010
- Children and Families Act 2014
- SEND Code of Practice (2015)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)
- Suspension and Permanent Exclusion Guidance (DfE)

This policy should be read alongside:

- Relational Behaviour Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- SEND Policy
- Positive Handling and Team Teach Policy
- Risk Assessment Procedures
- Complaints Policy

3. Principles

Blue Sky Learning will:

- Prioritise inclusion and placement stability.
- Use relational, trauma-informed and Thrive-informed approaches.
- Work collaboratively with learners, families, commissioning schools and local authorities.
- Consider safeguarding responsibilities at all times.
- Make reasonable adjustments where appropriate.
- Ensure decisions are fair, proportionate and evidence-based.
- Seek to maintain placements wherever it is safe and appropriate to do so.

4. Early Intervention

Where concerns arise regarding behaviour, attendance, engagement, wellbeing or safety, Blue Sky Learning will seek to identify and address concerns at the earliest opportunity.

Support may include:

- Keyworker support.
- Additional pastoral intervention.
- Thrive-informed strategies.
- Review of risk assessments.
- Review of behaviour support plans.
- Multi-agency meetings.
- Family engagement.
- Involvement of external professionals.
- Adjustments to provision arrangements.

The aim will always be to prevent placement breakdown and support successful engagement.

5. Placement Review Meetings

Where concerns persist, a Placement Review Meeting may be arranged.

This may involve:

- Parents or carers.
- The learner where appropriate.
- Commissioning school representatives.
- Local authority representatives.
- Relevant professionals.
- Blue Sky Learning staff.

The meeting will review:

- Current concerns.
- Support provided.
- Risk assessments and safeguarding considerations.
- Additional support strategies.
- The ongoing suitability of the placement.

A written record of actions and decisions will be maintained.

6. Suspension from Provision

In exceptional circumstances, a learner may be suspended from attending Blue Sky Learning for a short period where their continued presence presents:

- A serious risk to their own safety.
- A serious risk to the safety of others.
- A significant safeguarding concern.
- A situation that cannot be safely managed at that time.

Any suspension will:

- Be proportionate and for the shortest period possible.
- Be communicated to parents or carers.
- Be communicated to the commissioning school and/or local authority.
- Be supported by a review of risk assessments and support plans.
- Include planning for reintegration wherever appropriate.

Blue Sky Learning will work with all relevant parties to minimise disruption to education and support a successful return.

7. Placement Termination

Placement termination will only be considered where:

- The placement can no longer safely meet the learner's needs.
- Risks remain unmanageable despite reasonable intervention and support.
- The commissioning school or local authority determines that alternative provision is required.
- Serious safeguarding, health and safety or welfare concerns make continuation of the placement untenable.

Before a placement is terminated, Blue Sky Learning will normally:

- Review all support strategies and interventions.
- Convene a Placement Review Meeting.
- Consult with parents or carers.
- Consult with the commissioning school and/or local authority.
- Consider alternative arrangements and transition planning.

In exceptional circumstances involving immediate and serious risk, a placement may be terminated without completing the full review process.

8. Safeguarding and Equality Considerations

When making decisions under this policy, Blue Sky Learning will consider:

- Safeguarding responsibilities.
- SEND and additional needs.
- Mental health and wellbeing.
- Equality Act 2010 duties.
- Known vulnerabilities and adverse experiences.
- The impact on other learners and staff.

Reasonable adjustments will be considered wherever appropriate.

9. Records and Information Sharing

Accurate records will be maintained of:

- Incidents and concerns.
- Risk assessments.
- Meetings and decisions.
- Actions taken.
- Communication with families and commissioning bodies.

Relevant information will be shared with commissioning schools, local authorities and other agencies where appropriate and in accordance with data protection legislation.

10. Complaints

Concerns regarding decisions made under this policy should initially be raised with the Headteacher.

Where concerns cannot be resolved informally, they will be managed in accordance with the Complaints Policy.

11. Monitoring and Review

The Headteacher will monitor placement reviews, suspensions and placement terminations to ensure that decisions remain lawful, proportionate and in the best interests of learners and the wider provision community.

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if legislation, guidance or organisational requirements change.