

# DRURY SCHOOL: Policy 6.09

## Stand-Downs, Suspensions, Exclusions and Expulsions

### **Rationale:**

From time to time a student's behaviour, misconduct or continual disobedience within the school may be such that the Principal and Board of Trustees have grounds to stand-down or suspend that student.

### **Purposes:**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to the Principal and Board of Trustees on the processes of stand-downs, suspensions, exclusions and expulsions.

### **Guidelines:**

1. In all cases, the Principal and Board of Trustees will follow the process outlined in Guidance for Principals and Boards of Trustees on Stand-downs, Suspensions, Exclusions, and Expulsions. Ministry of Education (1999)
2. The process is also outlined in Sections 13-18 of the Education Act 1989 as amended by the Education Amendment Act (No.2) 1998.
3. Stand-down means the formal removal of a student from school for a specified period (no more than 5 school days in a term or 10 school days in a year).  
Suspension means the formal removal of a student from school until the BOT decides the outcomes of a suspension meeting.  
Exclusion means the formal removal of a student aged under 16 from the school and the requirement that the student enroll elsewhere.  
Expulsion means the formal removal of a student aged 16 or over from the school. Exclusion and expulsion are for the most serious cases only.
4. The Principal (or the person with the delegated authority of the BOT to act as Principal) is the only person who can make the decision to stand-down or suspend a pupil from the school after considering all underlying factors and the safety of all students at the school [Section 14 (1)]
5. The framework for stand-downs, suspensions etc. should be followed with reference to the student's right to education, right to counselling, obligation to parents / guardians, and the principles of natural justice.
6. Notification of stand-downs or suspensions will be given to parents/guardians, the Ministry of Education and the Board of Trustees using the appropriate format. (Refer to Guidance booklet as above.)

## 7. Grounds for stand-downs / suspensions

Section 14(1) of the Education Act 1989

*14. Principal may stand-down or suspend students –*

*(1) The Principal of a state school may stand-down or suspend a student if satisfied on reasonable grounds that –*

*(a) The student's gross misconduct or continual disobedience is a harmful or dangerous example to other students at the school; or*

*(b) Because of the student's behaviour, it is likely that the student, or other students at the school, will be seriously harmed if the student is not stood down or suspended for an unspecified period.*

### **Nature of Behaviour:**

This list is including but not inclusive;

- Continual disobedience
- Alcohol
- Drugs
- Physical assault of or on other students and staff
- Verbal assault on other students and staff
- Sexual harassment
- Sexual misconduct
- Smoking
- Theft
- Vandalism
- Weapon
- Other harmful or dangerous behaviour.
- Cyber-bullying