**03 - BEHAVIOUR PROCEDURES - EXCLUSION**

**TRANSCRIPT**

Exclusion is the most serious disciplinary action that a Queensland state school principal can impose against an enrolled student. A principal considers exclusion only in the most serious circumstances, when other disciplinary consequences have been exhausted or have been determined as insufficient to respond to the severity of the behaviour of the student.

The principal is the only person who can make the decision to exclude a student. These powers cannot be delegated to deputy principals or other staff in a Queensland state school. The grounds for exclusion are defined in the Queensland (General Provisions) Act 2006 as: persistent disobedience, misbehaviour, conduct that adversely affects or is likely to adversely affect other students, conduct that adversely affects or is likely to adversely affect the good order and management of the school, or, the student's attendance at the school poses an unacceptable risk to the safety or well-being of other students or of staff, if suspension of the student is inadequate to deal with the disobedience, misbehaviour, conduct or risk.

It is also ground for exclusion if the student is convicted of a serious offence and the principal is reasonably satisfied it would not be in the best interest of other students or staff for the student to be enrolled at the school. In the process making a decision about exclusion, the principal will tell the student and their parents that they are considering exclusion for the student and explain why they are considering this action.

If a decision is made by the principal to propose the exclusion of a student, the principal or the appropriately authorised officer conveys the decision to the student and the parent, including the reasons why they are considering this action. The student and their parent must be provided with the opportunity to respond to the evidence and any associated allegations prior to the principal making a decision about exclusion. The principal considers all relevant information, including any supplied by the student and parent prior to making a decision to suspend a student pending a final exclusion decision.

The principal has up to 20 school days to finalise their exclusion decision. The student and their parent must be advised of the final decision by the principal or appropriately authorised officer and provided with information about options for appealing the decision. Students may be excluded permanently or for a period of not more than one year. Students who are excluded will be provided with information about how to continue with their education. This could include information about how to apply for enrolment in another school.

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