

Policy for Expulsion

The Board of Management of Benincasa School has the authority to expel a student if the behaviour of the student is serious enough to warrant expulsion. Expulsion will take place if all other reasonable interventions to modify the pupil's behaviour have been exhausted.

Grounds for expulsion include

- Behaviours which are persistent and are a cause of significant disruption to the learning of others
- When the behaviour constitutes a threat to other pupils and staff
- The pupil is responsible for serious damage to property

The following procedure will be followed

- The Principal with the staff dealing with the pupil, will outline a detailed history of the behaviours of the pupil and outline the interventions which have taken place. The parents and pupil will be informed of the details outlined and indicate that it could result in expulsion. This will take place at a meeting and details will also be given in writing. If the parents fail to attend the meeting, it will be rescheduled indicating to parents the importance of attending.
- The invitations to meet and the response of parents will be documented.
- The Principal will form a view that expulsion may be warranted
- Parents and the student will be informed if the Principal is asking the Board of Management to consider expulsion.
- Comprehensive records will be provided for the parents and the board
- Parents will be invited to a meeting (giving sufficient notice) of the board to give a written or oral submission
- The Board will review the documentation and the investigation procedures
- The parents will present their response to the board and the board members will have an opportunity to ask questions of the Principal and the parents. Parents will make their case for the pupil.
- When the hearing is concluded the parents and Principal and any other person who has had an involvement with the circumstances will leave the meeting
- The board will deliberate and make a decision whether to expel the student or not
- The parent will be informed of the decision of the board. They will be informed that the Education Welfare Officer will be informed and also that they are entitled to appeal the decision of the board under Section 29 of the Education Act. A copy of the wording of the act and of the application form for an appeal will be enclosed.

- If the board considers expulsion is appropriate, the Education Welfare Officer will be notified in writing, giving the reasons for expulsion.
- The expulsion takes place 20 days after the EWO receives notification.
- The Principal with the school staff will give every support to the EWO to support the pupil in relation to alternative education e.g. IEP, details of pupil's development in subjects etc.

Note

In line with Guidelines from the National Educational Welfare Board, the Board of Management of Benincasa School reserves the right to expel a student for a first offence. Such offences would include

- A serious threat of violence against another student or a staff member
- Actual violence or physical assault causing injury
- Supplying illegal substances or using such substances in school