





Student Discipline and Exclusion

Policies, Procedures and Legal Frameworks







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Summary

Aim	This Policy aims to:
,	 set out the procedures in place for dealing with student
	discipline
	 set out the procedures in place for exclusion of students
	• set out the procedures in place students to appeal disciplinary
	action
	 highlight the school's commitment to the welfare of all
	students, staff, representatives and sub-contractors, and
	visitors to the school
	 highlight the school's moral and legal responsibilities when
	dealing with student discipline
Applies to	School Management
	Academic Management
	Safeguarding & Welfare Officer
	Health and Safety Officer
	Activity Leaders
	Accommodation staff
	Homestay providers
	Residence managers & staff
	Marketing and Sales staff
Related Documents	Staff Handbook
	Student Handbooks
	Prevent Duty Policy
	 Safeguarding and Welfare Policy
	Recruitment Policy
	Attendance Policy
	Anti-Bullying Policy
	Progress Monitoring Policy
Approved by	Proprietor
Responsibility for update	Deputy Principal
Date of approval	November 2019
Proposed date of review	November 2020

Burlington school is committed to providing the best service possible to its students and stakeholders. As a consequence, the school has in place a procedure for dealing with discipline among students to ensure that individual instances of misconduct do not affect the experience of the other students in the school.

This policy does not set out to list all conduct or actions that may result in disciplinary procedures being taken against students; however, it should be read in conjunction with the following policies, which outline examples of misconduct within their individual areas:

- Burlington School Attendance Monitoring Policyⁱ
- Burlington School Anti-Bullying Policyⁱⁱ
- Burlington School Safeguarding and Welfare Policyⁱⁱⁱ
- Burlington School Prevent Duty Policy^{iv}

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Expected standards of behaviour

All students are given a Student Handbook as part of their induction process. The handbook contains a written code of conduct for all students, and outlines the sanctions which may apply for breaches of the code.

See <u>Appendix 1</u> and <u>Appendix 2</u> for posters outlining the Student Code of Conduct at our London School.

See <u>Appendix 3</u> and <u>Appendix 4</u> for posters outlining the Student Code of Conduct at our Cheltenham Summer Centre.

See <u>Appendix 5</u> for posters outlining the Attendance Code of Conduct at our London School.

See <u>Appendix 6</u> and <u>Appendix 7</u> for posters outlining the school's approach to bullying and abusive or violent behaviour.

These posters are displayed throughout the school.

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Legal Frameworks

At all times, legal frameworks are considered when formulating school policy. Where there is a dispute between school policy and UK or EU law, the law takes precedence, and school policies are amended accordingly.

The frameworks considered include, but are not limited to:

- Safeguarding^v
- The Prevent Duty^{vi}
- Immigration^{vii}
- Health and Safety^{viii}
- Discrimination^{ix}

Disciplinary Procedures

Burlington School operates a disciplinary system for students based on that for staff, with a system of warnings and the ultimate sanction of exclusion. All issues of student misconduct are brought to the attention of the Deputy Principal (or Centre Manager in the case of residential centres). The Deputy Principal or Centre Manager then meets with the student, and depending on the findings of the meeting one of the following occurs:

Warning	Examples
No action taken	 Misconduct was misattributed. Misconduct was influenced by external factors. The student may be referred to the Safeguarding & Welfare Officer as appropriate.
Informal Warning	 Repeated failure to complete homework Repeated use of Mobile phones in class for purposes other than learning as sanctioned by the teacher
	The warning is not recorded.
Green Warning	 Showing disrespect to teachers or other members of Burlington School staff Showing disrespect to other students Persistent lateness or absence
	This warning is held on the student's record for a period of 3 months, or a period agreed between the school and the student (as well as the student's parent or guardian where appropriate).
Amber Warning	 Repeated instances of the above (2 or more Green Warnings) Breaking curfews in homestay or residences Causing accidental damage to school property, residential property or property of staff, representatives, or other members of the school through careless behaviour This warning is held on the student's record for a period of 3 months, or
	a period agreed between the school and the student (as well as the student's parent or guardian where appropriate).
Red Warning	 Repeated instances of the above (2 or more Yellow Warnings) Conduct that brings the name of Burlington School into disrepute Use of racist, sexist, homophobic or otherwise discriminatory language
	This warning is held on the student's record for a period of 3 months, or a period agreed between the school and the student (as well as the student's parent or guardian where appropriate).
Exclusion	 Repeated instances of the above (2 or more Red Warnings) Violence (or threatened violence) against members of school staff or representatives Violence (or threatened violence) against other students Deliberate damage to school property, residential property or property of staff, representatives, or other members of the school Possession of drugs on school premises, accommodation organised through Burlington School, or activities organised by Burlington School

In the case of students under the age of 18, the student's parent or guardian will be informed of all instances of misconduct.

Exclusion

Exclusion is the ultimate decision of the Deputy Principal; however, he or she should confer fully with any or all of the following as appropriate:

- Proprietor
- Director of Studies
- Health and Safety Officer
- Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Prevent Lead Person
- Safeguarding & Welfare Officer

Exclusion should be resorted to only in the most extreme cases of misbehaviour and indiscipline, and in most cases after every effort at rehabilitation has failed and every other sanction has been exhausted. However, in extreme cases, it may be applied as an immediate sanction without any previous warnings. Cases where immediate exclusion may be appropriate include, but are not limited to:

- Threatening or abusive behaviour towards a student, employee or representative of Burlington School.
- Possession of drugs other than those prescribed by a registered GP or bought over the counter at a reputable pharmacy.
- Possession of any form of offensive weapon.
- Any form of theft whether this occurs on the premises or outside.
- Conduct jeopardising the safety or welfare of a student, employee or representative of Burlington School.

There are 2 types of exclusion: Fixed-Term (Suspension) and Permanent (Expulsion). In cases where the student's conduct has warranted exclusion, the management team and other affected stakeholders should meet and decide which is the more appropriate sanction.

Fixed-Term Exclusion (Suspension)

This should be applied where:

- it is felt that the bond of trust between the school and the student can be repaired
- the student is taking steps (or has agreed to take steps) to address their behaviour, such as counselling or other medical intervention
- it is felt that the student may respond positively to a return to the school.

The period of suspension should be no more than 50% of the student's remaining time at the school.

Permanent Exclusion (Expulsion)

This should be applied where:

- it is felt that the bond of trust between the school and the student is beyond repair
- the presence of the student in the school, residential accommodation or activity sessions would jeopardise the safety or welfare of a student, employee or representative of Burlington School
- it is felt that the student would not respond positively to a return to the school.

Exclusion will be used as a sanction for students under the age of 18 only when Burlington School is satisfied that suitable provision for looking after the student is in place.

In cases of exclusion, the student is held to be in breach of their terms and conditions, and is thus not entitled to any refund in respect to any tuition or other services forfeited.

Appeals Procedures

At any time during the disciplinary process, students have the right to appeal the decision. Students may appeal any decision either verbally or in writing to the Deputy Principal (or Centre Manager in the case of residential centres).

In such cases a meeting is arranged between the student and a member of the school management team who has not been involved previously in the case. Another member of staff is present as an observer, and the student is invited to bring a friend or other representative to the meeting in a similar capacity. For students under the age of 18, the parent or guardian must be present; if this is not possible, the school Safeguarding & Welfare Officer should be present.

The meeting gives the student the chance to state their side of the dispute, and put forward any mitigating circumstances.

After the meeting, the manager holding the meeting reports back to the Deputy Principal or Centre Manager, who should then write to the student with the outcome of the meeting within 48 hours. Possible outcomes include:

- The warning or exclusion is upheld against the student
- The period a warning is held on the student's record is reduced
- A previous warning is extended, rather than a new warning issued
- An exclusion is overturned, and a warning issued in its place
- The warning or exclusion is overturned and deleted from the student record.

If the student is dissatisfied with the outcome of the appeal meeting, they are invited to set out their reasons in writing to the Deputy Principal, who will respond within 5 working days.

If the student is dissatisfied with the outcome of this response, they are invited to set out their reasons in writing to the Proprietor, who will respond within 15 working days.

If the student is dissatisfied with the outcome of this response, they are invited to contact English UK, the school's accrediting body. They will investigate the complaint in a full and impartial manner.

Further information about complaints and appeals can be found in the Student Handbooks, on the school website, and on notices throughout the school.

See <u>Appendix 8</u> and <u>Appendix 9</u> for the school complaints procedures.

Appendix 1: Student Code of Conduct Poster (London School)



Code of Conduct

We want all our students to have a positive and rewarding time in London and at Burlington School. Cases of misconduct are very rare at this school, and we ask all our students to follow this Code of Conduct, which is based on mutual respect and tolerance, and on UK law.

For more information, see the Student Handbook.



Appendix 2: Traffic Light Poster (London School)



Appendix 3: Student Code of Conduct Poster (Cheltenham Summer Centre)



Code of Conduct

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Appendix 4: Traffic Light Poster (Cheltenham Summer Centre)



In these cases, you might not receive a refund for any classes or accommodation you lose.

See the school's Discipline and Exclusion Policy for more information.

Appendix 5: Attendance Code of Conduct (London Centre)

The following notice is included in the Student Handbook, and displayed throughout the school:

Burlington School Attendance Code of Conduct

At Burlington School, we want our students to learn English in the best way. If students are absent from class, this is disruptive to their learning, and makes it harder for the teachers and other students. Therefore, we ask all our students to follow this code of conduct.





Bullying and Discrimination

At Burlington School, we will not tolerate bullying of any kind



We are a "Telling School". If you are being bullied or if you think somebody is being bullied, **tell us**.

Who?



Carla • Welfare Officer

Phil

See this person if ...

- · you are being bullied
- · you think someone is being bullied
- · you are being discriminated against

Who?



See this person if ...

- Designated Safeguarding Lead you are being bullied Prevent Lead Person • you think someone is being bullied
 - you are being discriminated against

Image credit © Kids Help Phone http://www.kidshelpphone.ca/KHP/media/KidsMediaLibrary/Posters/typesOfBullying-02.jpg



Image credit © Kids Hdp Phone http://www.kidshelpphone.ca/KHP/media/KidsMediaLibrary/Posters/typesOfBullying-02.jpg



Appendix 9: Complaints Procedure (Cheltenham Summer Centre)



Appendix 10: References

ⁱ <u>http://burlingtonschool.co.uk/docs/attendance.pdf</u>

ⁱⁱ <u>http://burlingtonschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Burlington-School-Anti-Bullying-Policy-</u> 2016.pdf

iii http://burlingtonschool.co.uk/docs/SafeguardingChildrenandVulnerableAdultsPolicy.pdf

^{iv} <u>http://burlingtonschool.co.uk/docs/prevent.pdf</u>

^v <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-and-young-people/safeguarding-children-and-young-people</u>

^{vi} <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf</u>

- ^{vii} <u>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules</u>
- viii http://www.hse.gov.uk/
- ix https://www.gov.uk/discrimination-your-rights



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