

Overview & Scrutiny

Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission (Supplementary Agenda)

All Members of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission are requested to attend the meeting of the Commission to be held as follows

Monday 18 December 2023

7.00 pm

Council Chamber, Hackney Town Hall, Mare Street, London E8 1EA

Contact:

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Mark Carroll

Chief Executive, London Borough of Hackney

Members: Cllr Sophie Conway (Chair), Cllr Margaret Gordon (Vice-Chair), Cllr Alastair Binnie-Lubbock, Cllr Eluzer Goldberg, Cllr Lee Laudat-Scott, Cllr Midnight Ross, Cllr Ifraax Samatar, Cllr Anya Sizer, Cllr Sheila Suso-Runge, Cllr Lynne Troughton and Cllr Sarah Young

Co-optees: Andy English, Jo Macleod, Chanelle Paul, Mariya Bham and Marianne Chiromo

Supplementary Agenda

ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

6 School Behaviour Policies (Draft Scoping Report) (20.55) (Pages 7 - 20)

To consider and agree proposals for the in-depth review of school behaviour policies to be planned by the Commission.

Access and Information

Public Involvement and Recording

Public Attendance at the Town Hall for Meetings

Scrutiny meetings are held in public, rather than being public meetings. This means that whilst residents and press are welcome to attend, they can only ask questions at the discretion of the Chair. For further information relating to public access to information, please see Part 4 of the council's constitution, available at <https://hackney.gov.uk/council-business> or by contacting Governance Services (020 8356 3503)

Following the lifting of all Covid-19 restrictions by the Government and the Council updating its assessment of access to its buildings, the Town Hall is now open to the public and members of the public may attend meetings of the Council.

We recognise, however, that you may find it more convenient to observe the meeting via the live-stream facility, the link for which appears on the agenda front sheet.

We would ask that if you have either tested positive for Covid-19 or have any symptoms that you do not attend the meeting, but rather use the livestream facility. If this applies and you are attending the meeting to ask a question, make a deputation or present a petition then you may contact the Officer named at the beginning of the agenda and they will be able to make arrangements for the Chair of the meeting to ask the question, make the deputation or present the petition on your behalf.

The Council will continue to ensure that access to our meetings is in line with any Covid-19 restrictions that may be in force from time to time and also in line with public health advice. The latest general advice can be found here - <https://hackney.gov.uk/coronavirus-support>

Rights of Press and Public to Report on Meetings

Where a meeting of the Council and its committees are open to the public, the press and public are welcome to report on meetings of the Council and its committees, through any audio, visual or written methods and may use digital and social media providing they do not disturb the conduct of the meeting and providing that the person reporting or providing the commentary is present at the meeting.

Those wishing to film, photograph or audio record a meeting are asked to notify the Council's Monitoring Officer by noon on the day of the meeting, if possible, or any time prior to the start of the meeting or notify the Chair at the

start of the meeting.

The Monitoring Officer, or the Chair of the meeting, may designate a set area from which all recording must take place at a meeting.

The Council will endeavour to provide reasonable space and seating to view, hear and record the meeting. If those intending to record a meeting require any other reasonable facilities, notice should be given to the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting and will only be provided if practicable to do so.

The Chair shall have discretion to regulate the behaviour of all those present recording a meeting in the interests of the efficient conduct of the meeting. Anyone acting in a disruptive manner may be required by the Chair to cease recording or may be excluded from the meeting.

Disruptive behaviour may include moving from any designated recording area; causing excessive noise; intrusive lighting; interrupting the meeting; or filming members of the public who have asked not to be filmed.

All those visually recording a meeting are requested to only focus on recording Councillors, officers and the public who are directly involved in the conduct of the meeting. The Chair of the meeting will ask any members of the public present if they have objections to being visually recorded. Those visually recording a meeting are asked to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed or photographed. Failure by someone recording a meeting to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed and photographed may result in the Chair instructing them to cease recording or in their exclusion from the meeting.

If a meeting passes a motion to exclude the press and public then in order to consider confidential or exempt information, all recording must cease, and all recording equipment must be removed from the meeting. The press and public are not permitted to use any means which might enable them to see or hear the proceedings whilst they are excluded from a meeting and confidential or exempt information is under consideration.

Providing oral commentary during a meeting is not permitted.

Advice to Members on Declaring Interests

Advice to Members on Declaring Interests

Hackney Council's Code of Conduct applies to all Members of the Council, the Mayor and co-opted Members.

This note is intended to provide general guidance for Members on declaring interests. However, you may need to obtain specific advice on whether you have an interest in a particular matter. If you need advice, you can contact:

- Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services
- the Legal Adviser to the Committee; or
- Governance Services.

If at all possible, you should try to identify any potential interest you may have before the meeting so that you and the person you ask for advice can fully consider all the circumstances before reaching a conclusion on what action you should take.

You will have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter if it:

- i. relates to an interest that you have already registered in Parts A and C of the Register of Pecuniary Interests of you or your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner;
- ii. relates to an interest that should be registered in Parts A and C of the Register of Pecuniary Interests of your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner, but you have not yet done so; or
- iii. affects your well-being or financial position or that of your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner.

If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest in an item on the agenda you must:

- i. Declare the existence and nature of the interest (in relation to the relevant agenda item) as soon as it becomes apparent to you (subject to the rules regarding sensitive interests).
- ii. You must leave the meeting when the item in which you have an interest is being discussed. You cannot stay in the meeting whilst discussion of the item takes place, and you cannot vote on the matter. In addition, you must not seek to improperly influence the decision.
- iii. If you have, however, obtained dispensation from the Monitoring Officer or Standards Committee you may remain in the meeting and participate in the

meeting. If dispensation has been granted it will stipulate the extent of your involvement, such as whether you can only be present to make representations, provide evidence or whether you are able to fully participate and vote on the matter in which you have a pecuniary interest.

Do you have any other non-pecuniary interest on any matter on the agenda which is being considered at the meeting?

You will have 'other non-pecuniary interest' in a matter if:

- i. It relates to an external body that you have been appointed to as a Member or in another capacity; or
- ii. It relates to an organisation or individual which you have actively engaged in supporting.

If you have other non-pecuniary interest in an item on the agenda you must:

- i. Declare the existence and nature of the interest (in relation to the relevant agenda item) as soon as it becomes apparent to you.
- ii. You may remain in the meeting, participate in any discussion or vote provided that contractual, financial, consent, permission or licence matters are not under consideration relating to the item in which you have an interest.
- iii. If you have an interest in a contractual, financial, consent, permission, or licence matter under consideration, you must leave the meeting unless you have obtained a dispensation from the Monitoring Officer or Standards Committee. You cannot stay in the meeting whilst discussion of the item takes place, and you cannot vote on the matter. In addition, you must not seek to improperly influence the decision. Where members of the public are allowed to make representations, or to give evidence or answer questions about the matter you may, with the permission of the meeting, speak on a matter then leave the meeting. Once you have finished making your representation, you must leave the meeting whilst the matter is being discussed.
- iv. If you have been granted dispensation, in accordance with the Council's dispensation procedure you may remain in the meeting. If dispensation has been granted it will stipulate the extent of your involvement, such as whether you can only be present to make representations, provide evidence or whether you are able to fully participate and vote on the matter in which you have a non-pecuniary interest.

Further Information

Advice can be obtained from Dawn Carter-McDonald, Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services via email dawn.carter-mcdonald@hackney.gov.uk

Getting to the Town Hall

For a map of how to find the Town Hall, please visit the council's website <http://www.hackney.gov.uk/contact-us.htm> or contact the Overview and Scrutiny Officer using the details provided on the front cover of this agenda.

Accessibility

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall.

Induction loop facilities are available in the Assembly Halls and the Council Chamber. Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

Further Information about the Commission

If you would like any more information about the Scrutiny Commission, including the membership details, meeting dates and previous reviews, please visit the website or use this QR Code (accessible via phone or tablet 'app')

<http://www.hackney.gov.uk/individual-scrutiny-commissions-children-and-young-people.htm>





Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission December 18th 2023 Item 6 - School Behaviour Policies (DRAFT Scope)	Item No 6
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Outline

The Commission has agreed to undertake an in-depth review of school behaviour policies as part of its work programme for 2023/24.

The scoping report sets out:

- The national and local context for the proposed review;
- The aims, objectives and anticipated outcomes of the review;
- Work programme, informants and schedule.

Members are invited to discuss the scoping report and agree/amend the aims, objectives and outcomes for the planned review and associated schedule.

Reports

- School Behaviour Policies (DRAFT Scope)

To follow

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Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission

School Behaviour Policy - Outline Scope

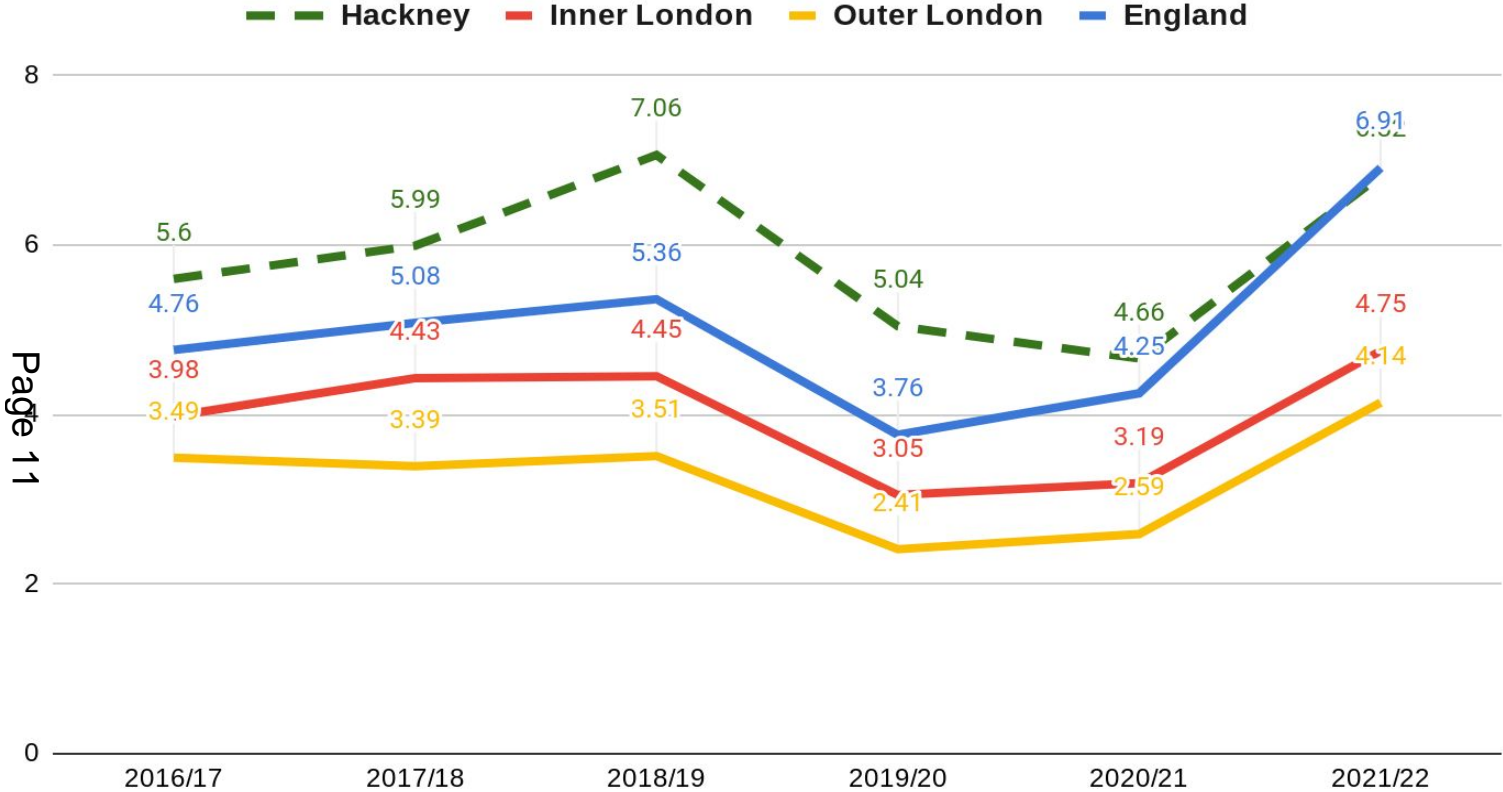
December 18th 2023

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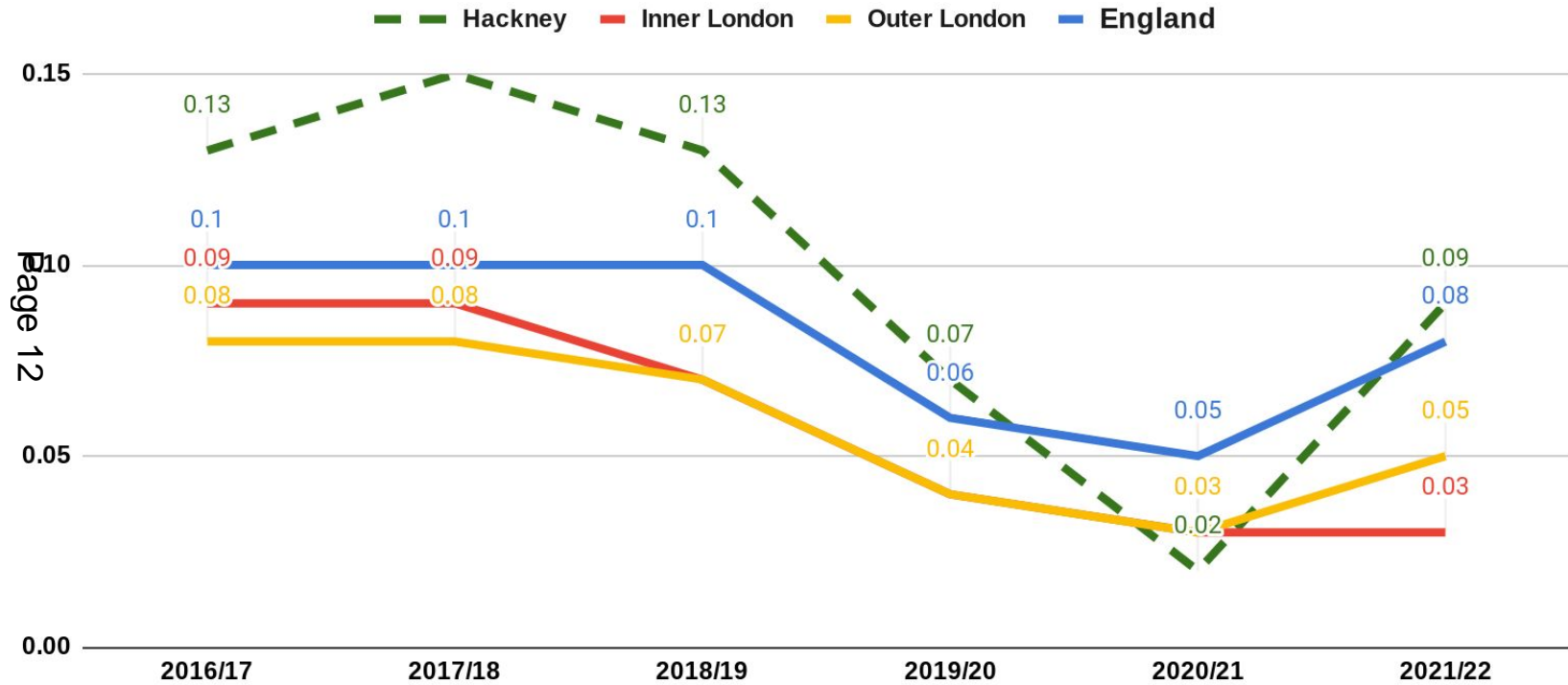
Background to this review being selected.....

1. (Ongoing) high rates of permanent school exclusions and school suspensions in Hackney
 - Hackney currently has second highest rates of permanent exclusion and suspension in London.
2. Commission's outcomes from school exclusions review (2021)
 - Impact of school exclusion on children, their families and the wider community
 - Punitive behaviour strategies v positive behaviour management strategies
 - Disproportionality
3. Child Q - Safeguarding Practice Review (and follow-up review)
 - Adulthood of children from black and global majority backgrounds
 - How school behaviour policies override safeguarding concerns
4. Mental health needs of young people (CAMHS)
 - Escalating mental health needs among young people - during and post pandemic
 - CAMHS work identified school behaviour policies as
5. SEND among young people
 - High rates of children with EHCP, and rising numbers of children with SEND (both EHCP and SEND Support) receiving education in mainstream schools
 - Parents experience difficulty to choose schools, and ongoing communication
6. Consultations with young people - Hackney Youth Parliament

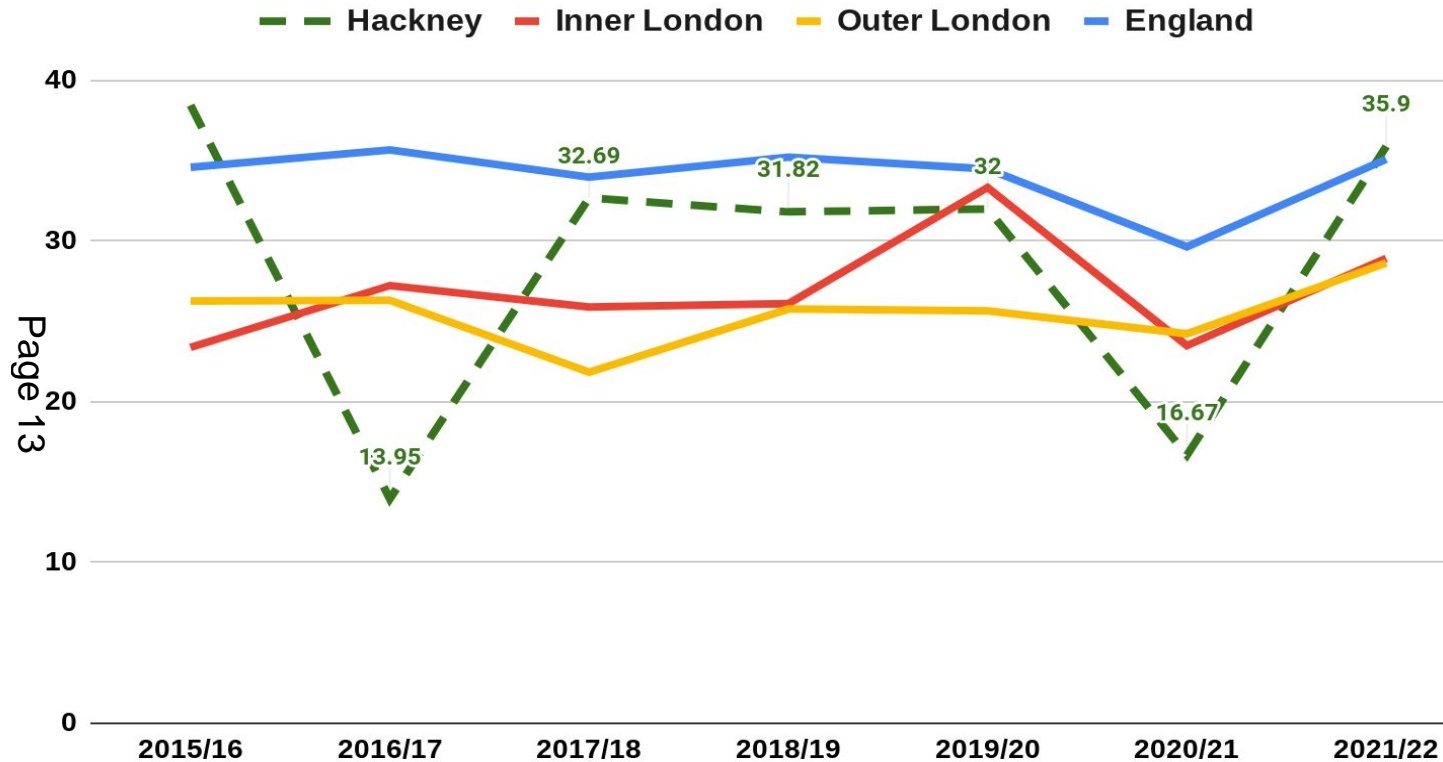
Suspension Rate 2016/17-2021/22



Permanent Exclusion Rate 2016/17- 2021/22



Permanent Exclusion - Persistent Disruptive Behaviour (%) 2015/16 to 2021/22



Important: Categories changed from 2020/21 to include wider range of exclusion reasons which now include: abuse relating to sexuality, gender identity and disability, inappropriate use of social media, use or threat of offensive weapon and repeated public health transgressions.

National School Behaviour Survey (Teachers and Pupils)

- National Annual Survey of School Behaviour covering 4 areas:

- School behaviour culture and policy
- School environment and experience
- Frequency and impact of misbehaviour
- Responding to behaviour

- The most recent [National Behaviour Survey 2021/22](#) (published June 2023)

- 91% of pupils know what's expected of them, 91% said policy applied fairly 'at least some of the time', 19% said '*applied fairly all the time*';
- 90% of schools systematically record pupils behaviour, 83% use it to inform policy;
- 46% of heads said school was 'calm every day', compared to 23% of secondary and 19% of pupils;
- 41% of pupils 'felt safe every day';
- 67% of teachers and 62% of pupils reported that misbehaviour had interrupted lessons;
- Teachers reported that for every 30 minutes of lessons, 6.3 mins lost due to misbehaviour;
- 27% of teachers and 20% of heads wanted further training in behaviour management;
- Common interventions: referrals to specialist services (92%) mentoring and social/emotional learning (92%) referral to pastoral support staff (79%) and removal as a restorative measure (77%).

From the Commission's 2021 published review.....

'In my year, they had a list with everyone's name on it, and the top names would be those who were excelling and right at the bottom would be who isn't. It's a bit like a league table, the top kids are at the top and everyone knows who's at the bottom and this was mostly based on behaviour. It was put up in the hall and I got a text to say I was in the bottom 3. At break time everyone would come and look at the list and laugh at it. At the time, most of my friendship group were near the bottom so for us it was a bit of a laugh, but looking back on it now, I don't think it should have been on the wall.'

'... you know who's been bad because of the report cards. You have to give the report card to every teacher every lesson and if you keep getting bad reports then that's when you get kicked out and that labels you as a poor behaviour student. ... if you know you are going to get a poor report card then you may as well just make use of it... and other people know it and it's also a problem as people then try and aggravate you and push you to the limit.'

Guidance framework for school behaviour policies

- All schools (maintained, academies, independent) are responsible for drafting their own behaviour management policy.

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Non statutory guidance for managing behaviour in schools is set out [Behaviour in Schools Guidance \(2022\)](#)

- Safeguarding duties and responsibilities and implications for behaviour management are set out in [Keeping Children Safe in Education \(2023\)](#)
- Mental health considerations for managing behaviour in schools is set out in [Mental Health and behaviour in School \(2018\)](#)

School Behaviour Policies

- *‘a school’s behaviour policy should promote good behaviour in all students, prevent bullying, ensure students remain on task and it should encourage these behaviours as a standard, as well as instil self-discipline and respect.’*
-
- In legal terms any school behaviour policy must be
 - Lawful
 - Proportionate; and
 - Reasonable.
- School behaviour policy must comply with the school’s duties under:
 - The Equality Act 2010;
 - The Education and Inspections Act 2006.
- A schools education policy must take into account a pupils:
 - Age;
 - Special Educational Needs or Disabilities
 - Religious requirements.
- It must be published.

Aims & Objectives for review....

What does the Commission aim to achieve through this work? *Possible areas of focus:*

- To further understand how behaviour policies are created, developed and applied in local schools;
- To assess how school behaviour policies in creating safe and positive environment for teaching and learning;
- How school behaviour policies interact with/ trigger assessments for possible unmet needs in relation to SEND, mental health or social emotional support.
- To assess the impact of behaviour policies relation to equality considerations and how they intersect with related policies to promote inclusion (mental health and SEND) and tackle local inequalities (anti-racist action plan);
- To assess the extent to which parents engage with and understand the scope and impact of the schools behaviour policy on their child;
- Assess and identify how positive behaviour is taught, practised and modelled through the school and curriculum
- To assess how pupils relate to and engage with school behaviour policies;
- How the work of the Commission can develop and extend good local practice.

Key local stakeholders to be involved in the review.....

Key local stakeholders

- Local state funded schools:
 - *State funded schools; maintained, academies & faith*
 - *Focus on secondary schools*

Pupils:

- *Focus on secondary schools*

Parents:

- *Generic*
- *Children with SEND*

- Local Authority:
 - *Duties and responsibilities*

Other contributors

- Ofsted
 - *Inspection framework*
- Specialist education agencies
 - *Education Endowment Fund*
 - *Sutton Trust*
 - *Children & Young People Mental Health Coalition*
- Education Unions

Scrutiny Process and methods.....

- Discuss and agree scope & terms of reference for the Commission's review - December 2023 /January 2024
- Further consideration on how to engage and involve local schools
- Call for evidence to local stakeholders (6 week period in between pre-election periods to February to March 19th 2024)
 - Online survey to capture positive or otherwise experiences of school behaviour policies - and impact on pupils and their families
- Consultative groups supplementing above - (to April 2024)
 - Pupils
 - Parents
 - Specialist education agencies
 - LA/ Ofsted

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