

Education from day 6 of a suspension

It is important for schools to help minimise the disruption that suspension or permanent exclusion can cause to a pupil's education. Whilst the statutory duty on governing boards or local authorities is to arrange full-time education from the sixth day of a suspension or permanent exclusion, there is an obvious benefit to the pupil in starting this provision as soon as possible. In the case of a looked-after child or child with a social worker, the school and the local authority should work together to arrange alternative provision from the first day following the suspension or permanent exclusion.

The chair of the governing board should ensure that there are clear processes in place to comply with its legal duty to arrange suitable full-time educational provision for pupils of compulsory school age from the sixth consecutive school day of a suspension.

This includes:

- Checking that there is a process in place for the governing board to assure itself that the education provided is suitable and full-time
- Quality assuring provision and ensuring that any previous placements have been evaluated, including support for any SEND the pupil may have
- Checking whether there is a process in place to monitor the pupil's attendance and behaviour at the provision
- Checking whether the correct attendance code is being used
- Checking whether the pupil's child protection file and any other information relevant to the pupil's safeguarding and welfare has been securely transferred to their new setting as early as possible, in line with Keeping children safe in education 2021 (publishing.service.gov.uk)