

PASTORAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME (PSP)

A **Pastoral Support Programme (PSP)** is a school-based intervention to help individual pupils better manage their behaviour. It is for pupils who do not respond to school actions to combat disaffection, pupils whose behaviour is deteriorating rapidly and those who have several fixed term exclusions that may lead to a permanent exclusion. It is expected that a PSP should have been tried **before** a permanent exclusion in most cases.

A PSP should normally:

- Identify precise and realistic behaviour outcomes – identify rewards that can be achieved for meeting targets
- Have a nominated staff member to oversee the PSP
- Have short and practical targets, broken down into fortnightly tasks
- Sanctions that will be applied if certain behaviour occurs
- Be set up automatically for a pupil who has had several fixed term exclusions

PSP should not be used to replace a Learning Support Plan (LSP). If a child has Special Educational Needs with behavioural issues a LSP should be used.

PSP should be:

- Agreed with parents and pupils in a planning meeting. Parents should be invited as well as relevant persons or bodies, such as Educational Psychologist, Head Of Year, Class Teacher, Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, Learning Mentor, Connexions, etc.

In drawing up a PSP, discussions with others should include some or all of the following:

- Barriers to learning
- Review any learning difficulties
- Consider dis-applying from the National Curriculum
- Changing class teaching sets or class
- Consider joint registration with school and BSS/Secondary Support Service
- Consider if pupil should be offered specialist support, e.g. Child and Family Guidance/Educational Psychologist
- Set times in the week for child to see Mentor/ Head of Year
- Managed move to another school
- Agreement on a seating plan so that the child is surrounded by more supportive pupils
- Arrange for attendance at homework club
- Explore the possibility of college/work placement

The pupil's views should be taken into consideration, as any strategies put in place will not work if the child is not engaged and willing to take responsibility for their learning and/or actions.

SUGGESTED LENGTH OF PROGRAMME IS 16 WEEKS WITH AN AGREED REVIEW HALFWAY THROUGH DURATION OF PSP