

What does it mean if your child is suspended or expelled from school?

What will happen? What can you do? Who can help you?

What is the purpose of suspension?

In most circumstances, a student will be suspended for serious misbehaviour, or where other measures or support have not resulted in a change in behaviour.

Suspension allows:

- a student time to think about their behaviour and accept responsibility for changing it
- the school time to plan how best to support the student in the future.

What does suspension mean?

Suspension means that your child cannot go to school for a number of days. You are responsible for your child's supervision while they are suspended. They cannot come onto the school grounds without the principal's permission.

There are two types of suspension:

- Short suspension means a student is suspended from school for up to four school days
- Long suspension means a student is suspended from school for up to 20 school days.

Only the principal can decide that a student should be suspended and for how long.

What will happen if your child is suspended?

You will receive a letter from the principal telling you why your child has been suspended and how long the suspension will last. You will also receive a copy of the Department's suspension procedures.

The school will provide a study program for students on long suspensions. Sometimes it is possible to reduce the length of a long suspension when the problem causing the suspension can be resolved quickly.

You will be asked to come to the school to discuss the suspension as soon as possible. Sometimes the meeting can be held in a another way, such as by telephone, or in another place by agreement.

You can bring someone to meetings as a support person if you wish.

What does expulsion mean?

Expulsion means your child can no longer attend a particular school. There are two reasons for expulsion:

- Misbehaviour of a student of any age. Another educational placement will be found for your child.
- Unsatisfactory participation of a student no longer of compulsory school age. Finding another

educational placement is the responsibility of you and your child. Advice is available from the regional office.

How can you appeal?

If you think that the suspension or expulsion is unfair, or the procedures haven't been followed properly you can lodge an appeal.

People at the school and the local regional office can provide information about the appeals process.

Your child can't go to school during the suspension, even if you do appeal.

Where can I get a copy of the suspension procedures?

At the web address:
www.det.nsw.edu.au/policies/student_serv/discipline/susp_expul/leaflet_1.pdf
or from your local school.

Who can help you?

Who can help if your child is suspended or expelled or at risk of being suspended or expelled?

At Our School

Name

Telephone

School Counsellor
Year Advisor
Other School Staff

Regional Office

Telephone numbers for regional offices can be found at the following link:

<https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/contactus/index.htm#regional>

Name

Telephone

Student Services Officer
Student Welfare Consultant
Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer

Other agencies

Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG)	02 9550 5666
Federation of P&C Associations	1300 885 982
Telephone Interpreter Service	131 450