NEWTOWN HIGH SCHOOL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS

Student Behaviour Management Policy

Excellence, Creativity and Equity
NEWTOWN HIGH SCHOOL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS

Excellence, Creativity and Equity

Newtown High School of the Performing Arts (NHSPA) aims to develop skilled and creative learners who value the performing and creative arts as well as academic excellence. The school creates an environment where all students are encouraged to set high expectations and are supported to achieve their full potential.

As members of the school community we are committed to our core values of Excellence, Creativity and Equity. We have an expectation that all members of our community will consistently act in a manner that promotes these values both as individuals and as representatives of the School.

PUTTING OUR VALUES INTO ACTION

Achieve Excellence

Excellence is about student success and is attained through setting and maintaining high expectations and standards of achievement in all aspects of school life.

Excellence is an ideal we achieve by continually striving for the highest levels of personal achievement in all aspects of our schooling and individual pursuits.

Students can strive for individual excellence throughout their schooling by:

- setting and maintaining high standards and expectations for their learning
- persisting through challenges and difficulties in learning
- recognising and celebrating the attainment of personal best performances

Inspire Creativity

Creativity reflects the ability to use the imagination to develop new and original ideas, especially in an artistic context through a process of moving from an initial concept to a final creation.

At the heart of our unique school ethos and community is our ability to inspire creativity, within our academic, performing and creative arts endeavours.

We aim to achieve this by providing opportunities for all students to participate in a wide variety of pursuits. Through this we foster a culture where students value and encourage the unique abilities and contributions of their peers.

Promote Equity

Equity recognises the benefits that individual differences bring to a learning environment and the responsibility of the school to ensure that individual needs of students are met.

We promote and actively encourage Equity by following the guiding principles of respect, fairness and integrity.

We expect all students to have regard for themselves and others, to recognise the cultural diversity within the school community and accept the right of others to hold different or opposing views.

All students have a right to expect, and provide, fair treatment to all members of the school community.

Personal integrity is the foundation for building and maintaining healthy relationships. This involves being, at all times, truthful to ourselves and others and being sincere in our intentions and actions.
Introduction to our Student Behaviour Management Policy

Our Student Behaviour Management Policy is designed to ensure that our core expectations are implemented fairly and consistently within the spirit of our core values.

Our Core Expectations

1. Respect for Ourselves
2. Respect for Others
3. Respect for Property
4. Respect for the School

The aim of the policy is to constructively and positively address individual student behaviour in ways that emphasises both support and repair through a restorative approach. Restorative practice places individual responsibility for inappropriate behaviour in the immediate context of relationships within the school community. Whether those relationships be with peers, staff or the wider school community, it is important to restore relationships in ways that demonstrate mutual respect with the aim of making a long term difference. Support is offered through the various structures within the school (which include faculties, the welfare team, the learning support team, school counsellor and the executive) to assist students take responsibility for their own behaviour.

The restorative practice model seeks to develop strong relationships based on mutual respect and to restore a sense of belonging to the school community. Disciplinary consequences therefore centre on ‘working WITH’ students making them accountable in an active way, rather than simply ‘doing TO’ students by handing out punishment. The impact of inappropriate behaviour on others is the basis for decisions on disciplinary consequences which are constructed to create opportunities for learning. Restorative processes solicit feelings from teachers, parents, school staff and other students so that a student can understand the impact of their behaviour. Students must also help to repair the relationship and to take responsibility for the true consequences of their actions.
A RESTORATIVE APPROACH TO STUDENT BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT

A restorative approach is used to rebuild and strengthen relationships. At Newtown High School of the Performing Arts the following approach is used to promote positive behaviour, wellbeing and connectedness across the entire school community.

**STRUCTURE**

**First Warning Issued**
- Reason for 1st warning explicitly stated

**Second Warning Issued**
- Reason for 2nd warning explicitly stated

*If continued*

**Restorative Discussion and Classroom Contract**
- Student and teacher discuss the restorative questions together and determine a resolution
- Classroom contract letter generated and sent home to parents/carers which outlines the specific issue and the agreed resolution strategies to be implemented
- Teacher records student behaviour over the term of the contract which may be six lessons or a 2 week cycle.

*If the classroom contract is broken, referral to relevant subject HT for intervention*

**Restorative Interview and Head Teacher Contract**
- Student and head teacher have a restorative discussion and determine a resolution
- Head teacher contract letter generated and sent to parents outlining the issue and the agreed resolution strategies. Head teacher to make a phone call home to parents informing them of this intervention.
- Class teacher records student behaviour over the term of the contract over (six lessons) and HT to make follow up phone call to parents to discuss outcomes.

**Restorative Interview and Deputy Principal Contract**
- If a student has exhausted the support options offered at the Head Teacher Level and has not demonstrated a change in behaviour or if a student is issued two concurrent HT contracts in a term, they will be referred to the DP where a formal student/deputy interview will be conducted.

**Breaking the DP contract/Letter of Caution**
If the pattern of inappropriate behaviour continues after a formal caution and a current behaviour management plan then the deputy will follow the Department of Education and Communities Suspension and Expulsion procedures. This matter will be referred to the Principal for consideration and may lead to a suspension from school.

**INTERVENTION/SUPPORT**

Warnings given for behaviours such as:
- Talking
- Distracting others
- Not following instructions
- Impolite or disrespectful behaviour
- Late to class
- Out of uniform without a valid uniform pass

Warning should be explicit and identify what exact behaviour is being targeted. e.g. First warning for…

*If a student has 2 concurrent classroom contracts the Year Advisor support may include;*
- Raise concern at fortnightly welfare meeting
- Restorative conversation with the student to discuss possible reasons for the behaviour and solutions/strategies with student
- Initiate a progress report for students with multiple contracts to identify behaviour pattern and determine appropriate support strategies

*The Head Teacher support may include:*
- Parent meeting with student, teacher and HT
- Continuation of contract if small improvement is demonstrated
- Raise concern at Executive meeting
- Referral to Deputy Principal

*Deputy Principal support may include;*
- Parent/student Interview
- Letter of Caution and Negotiated Behaviour Management Plan
- Continuation of contract
- Follow up progress report
- Referral to the Principal

- When an incident occurs in the playground, outdoor assemblies or meetings the same process is followed and students are referred to the Head Teacher on Duty or, if unavailable, to a Deputy Principal.
- For serious breaches of discipline students may be referred directly to a Head Teacher or a Deputy Principal.
A RESTORATIVE APPROACH TO STUDENT TRUANCY

A restorative approach is used to rebuild and strengthen relationships. At Newtown High School of the Performing Arts the following approach is used to promote positive behaviour, wellbeing and connectedness across the entire school community.

**Structure**

**Classroom Teacher**

**Restorative Discussion and Classroom Contract**

*For partial truancy a classroom teacher:*

- Sends a partial absence letter to parents
- Has a Restorative Discussion with student
- Notifies the Head Teacher of any truancy
- Issues a Classroom contract for second truancy
- Monitors student attendance over a two week cycle or the equivalent of six lessons

*N.B.*

- Should the classroom contract be breached refer to Head Teacher and continue to monitor whilst on a Head Teacher contract.

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**Head Teacher**

**Restorative Discussion and HT Contract**

*For breach of classroom contract a Head Teacher:*

- Places student on a HT contract, has a restorative conversation with student and makes a phone call to the parent/carer to discuss concerns and details of the HT contract
- Checks pattern of attendance with classroom teacher
- Makes a follow up phone call to parents to discuss the outcome/progress of student attendance and application whilst on the HT contract
- Notifies of a concern at executive meeting if student has been placed on a HT contract for repeated truancies.

*N.B.*

- Should the Head Teacher contract be breached the Head Teacher informs the Deputy Principal

For Years 10, 11 & 12 students – *N Determination Course Warning letter can be issued for not meeting some or all of the course outcomes/ or not shown diligence and sustained effort in the course and course warning process then followed*

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**Deputy Principal**

**Restorative Discussion and DP Contract**

*For breach of HT contract, or more than one Head Teacher contract in one term, a Deputy Principal may:*

- Interviews the student to discuss their persistent truancy
- Conducts a formal interview with parent/carer
- Develops an attendance plan/attendance card
- Places student on a Deputy Principal contract
- Issue a Letter of Caution and Negotiated Behaviour Management Plan undertaken for 10 school weeks
- Enables a follow up progress report and parent/carer meeting

*N.B.*

- If a student is found away from school grounds without permission, they will be sent to the Deputy Principal responsible for that year group.
- Persistent truancy may be referred to the Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO). A parent meeting to be arranged to discuss strategies to improve attendance, the legal ramifications of non-attendance and a formal attendance plan developed by HSLO.

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**Breaking the DP contract/Letter of Caution**

If the pattern of truancy continues after a formal caution and a current behaviour management plan is effective, then the Deputy will follow the Department of Education and Communities Suspension and Expulsion procedures. This matter will be referred to the Principal for consideration and may lead to a suspension from school for continued disobedience.

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**Additional Welfare Support**

**Year Advisor**

- Receives truancy list off TSS and has targeted restorative discussions with students of concern
- Year advisor may call parent/carer for further discussion if truancy is in several subjects

Support could include:

- Initiate a progress report for students with numerous truancies to confirm pattern and impact on student learning outcomes
- Informs Deputy Principal, during regular meetings, to discuss support strategies to improve attendance.

*If pattern of truancy continues additional intervention strategies will be discussed with Deputy Principal*
A RESTORATIVE APPROACH TO STUDENT LATENESS

A restorative approach is used to rebuild and strengthen relationships. At Newtown High School of the Performing Arts the following approach is used to promote positive behaviour, wellbeing and connectedness across the entire school community.

**Structure**

**Classroom Teacher:**

**First Warning**
- Warning should explicitly relate to unexplained lateness to class

**Second Warning**
- Warning should explicitly relate to repeated recorded unexplained lateness to class

**For continued unexplained lateness to class**

**Restorative Discussion and Classroom Contract**
- Student thinks through restorative questions and discusses with teacher
- Classroom contract letter to parents generated with resolution
- Contract written with attendance target set and monitored for a two week cycle or the equivalent of six lessons

**Head Teacher:**

**Restorative Discussion and HT Contract**

*For breach of classroom contract, or more than one classroom contract in one term, the Head Teacher:*
- Places student on a HT contract, has a restorative conversation with student and makes a phone call to the parent/carer to discuss concerns and details of the HT contract
- Checks pattern of lateness with classroom teacher
- Makes a follow up phone call to parents to discuss the outcome/progress of student attendance and application whilst on the HT contract
- Notifies of a concern at executive meeting if student has been placed on a HT contract for repeated lateness.

**Deputy Principal**

**Restorative Discussion and DP Contract**

*For breach of HT contract, or more than one Head Teacher contract in one term, a Deputy Principal may:*
- Interviews the student to discuss their persistent lateness
- Contacts parent/carer to raise concerns over lateness
- Develops an attendance plan/attendance card
- Places student on a Deputy Principal contract
- Issue a Letter of Caution and Negotiated Behaviour Management Plan undertaken for 10 school weeks
- Enables a follow up progress report and parent/carer meeting

**Year Advisor**

**Year Advisor receives list of students with unexplained lateness to school.**

*For students with identified patterns of lateness the Year Advisor will:*
- Hold a restorative discussion with student to identify possible causes and solutions to improve their attendance.
- Informs Deputy Principal, during regular meetings, to discuss support strategies to improve lateness
- Initiates progress report on students if required
- Year advisor may call parent/carer for further discussion if pattern of lateness continues.

**Breaking the DP Contract**

Formal student/deputy interview with student who has a recorded history of unexplained lateness, who has exhausted the deputy principal intervention and has not demonstrated a change in behaviour. The deputy will follow the Department of Education and Communities Suspension and Expulsion procedures. This matter will be referred to the Principal for consideration and may lead to a suspension from school for continued disobedience.
Class Teacher - Restorative Contract

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to inform you that Name is causing concern in Subject and has been placed on a classroom contract. At Newtown High School of the Performing Arts, we believe that students learn best in an environment of mutual respect, trust and quality relationships among all members of the school community. This constitutes one of our core beliefs about learning. When a student's actions have an adverse impact on the learning of others we seek to ensure that they understand the consequences of their behaviour and also seek your support in rectifying the situation.

Name has been placed on a Classroom Teacher contract for:

**Reason why student has been placed on a classroom contract.**

Following a restorative discussion Name has agreed to resolve the issue by:

**Outcome to the restorative discussion.**

This contract has been negotiated after 2 official classroom warnings. Name will be on this classroom contract for a period of 2 weeks in order to provide them with the opportunity to redeem the situation and modify the behaviour causing concern. The classroom contract is between the student and the classroom teacher. After the two week period is over it is expected Name will meet with me to determine if the restorative terms of the contract have been met.

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of the problem and to enlist your support in improving Name’s classroom behaviour. Where it is determined that Name has not met the terms of the classroom contract she places herself at risk of receiving a Head Teacher contract and a Head Teacher interview.

This classroom contract will be recorded on Name’s school record.

Please discuss this matter with Name and contact the school if further information or clarification is required. Additionally, for further information please refer to page 4 of the Student Behaviour Management Policy.

Classroom Teacher
**Classroom Teacher Monitoring Card**

**Student name:** Name

**Class:** 7ENS

**Subject:** English

**Date issued:** 20/12/2011  
**Date completed:**

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Name’s Self Reflection Statement:

**Key:** 1 = Unsatisfactory  2 = Poor  3 = Satisfactory  4 = Good  5 = Excellent
Restorative Questions

Date: ________________________________

Class: ____________________ Period: ____________________

Student’s name: ____________________ Faculty: ____________________

Teacher name: ____________________

Contract issued for: ____________________

Restorative questions:

What happened?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

What were you thinking of at the time?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

What have you thought about since?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
Who has been affected by what you have done?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

In what way have they been affected?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
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What are you going to do to modify your behaviour in order to resolve the issue?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

I ______________________________ understand that if I break this negotiated contract I will be required to attend a Head Teacher restorative interview involving parental contact and be placed on a Head Teacher Contract for a period of 2 weeks.

Teacher’s Signature ___________________________ Student’s Signature ___________________________
Restorative Questions

When you have been affected

Date:

Class:                  Period:

Student’s name:        Faculty:

Teacher name:

Restorative questions:

What did you think when you realised what had happened?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

What impact has this had on you and others?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

What has been the hardest thing for you?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

What do you think needs to happen to make things right?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________   ________________________________
Student’s Signature             Teacher’s Signature
Head Teacher - Restorative Contract

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to inform you that Name is causing ongoing concern in Subject and has been placed on a Head Teacher contract. At Newtown High School of the Performing Arts, we believe that students learn best in an environment of mutual respect, trust and quality relationships among all members of the school community. This constitutes one of our core beliefs about learning. When a student’s actions have an adverse impact on the learning of others we seek to ensure that they understand the consequences of their behaviour and also seek your support in rectifying the situation.

Name has been placed on a Head Teacher contract for:

**Reason why student has been placed on a classroom contract.**

Following a Head Teacher Interview Name has agreed to resolve the issue by:

**Outcome to the restorative discussion.**

Name will be monitored on this Head Teacher contract for a period of 2 weeks in order to provide her with the opportunity to redeem the situation and modify the behaviour causing concern. After the two week period is over, it is expected that Name will meet with me to determine if the restorative terms of the contract have been met.

If it is determined that Name fails to comply with the terms of the Head Teacher contract she places herself at risk of receiving a Deputy Principal contract which may require a restorative parent/carer interview.

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of the problem and to enlist your support in improving Name’s classroom behaviour. This Head Teacher contract will be recorded on Name’s school record.

Please discuss this matter with Name and contact the school if further information or clarification is required. Additionally, for further information please refer to page 4 of the Student Behaviour Management Policy.

Yours sincerely,

Head Teacher
Faculty
**Head Teacher Monitoring Card**

**Student name:** Name

**Class:** 7ENS

**Subject:** English

**Date issued:** 20/12/2011

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Name’s Self Reflection Statement:

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**Key:**

1 = Unsatisfactory  
2 = Poor  
3 = Satisfactory  
4 = Good  
5 = Excellent
Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

I am writing to inform you that Name has been placed on a Deputy Principal contract. At Newtown High School of the Performing Arts, we believe that students learn best in an environment of mutual respect, trust and quality relationships among all members of the school community. This constitutes one of our core beliefs about learning. When a student’s actions have an adverse impact on the learning of others we seek to ensure that they understand the consequences of their behaviour and also seek your support in rectifying the situation.

Name has been placed on a Deputy Principal contract for:

**Reason why student has been placed on a classroom contract.**

Following a Deputy Principal Interview Name has agreed to resolve the issue by:

**Outcome to the restorative discussion.**

Name will be monitored daily on this Deputy Principal contract for a period of 2 weeks to provide her with the opportunity to redeem the situation and modify the behaviour causing concern. After the two week period is over, it is expected that Name will meet with me to review her progress and to determine if the restorative terms of the contract have been met.

If it is determined that Name fails to comply with the terms of the Deputy Principal contract over this period she places herself at risk of receiving a letter of caution for continued disobedience. This Deputy Principal contract will be recorded on Name’s school record.

Please discuss this matter with Name and contact the school if further information or clarification is required. Additionally, for further information please refer to page 4 of the Student Behaviour Management Policy.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Principal
Deputy Principal Monitoring Card

**Student name:** Name  
**Class:** 7ENS  
**Subject:** English  
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Name’s Self Reflection Statement:

**Key:** 1 = Unsatisfactory  2 = Poor  3 = Satisfactory  4 = Good  5 = Excellent
Dear parent(s)/carer(s),

I am writing to advise you that your daughter, Name, has breached our school’s Student Behaviour Management Policy.

The details of this are:

**Reason why student has been issued with a letter of caution.**

The school’s response to Name’s misconduct has been to issue this formal letter of caution, as well as develop the Behaviour Management Plan attached.

It should be understood that persistent and serious breaches of school rules can lead to suspension from school. It is our hope that by working together we can develop appropriate intervention strategies for Name so that this type of misconduct is not repeated.

Please complete the acknowledgment advice below and have Name return it to me as soon as possible. If you would like to discuss this matter further please telephone the school on 9519 1544 where a suitable discussion time can be organised.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Principal

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Please complete this slip and have, Name return it to Deputy Principal.

**Student’s Name:** Name  **Year:** 7  **Roll Class:** 22

I acknowledge that I have received the the letter of caution.

Parent/Carer signature: __________________________  Date: __________
Behaviour Management Plan

Plan rationale:
This ten week program is being negotiated following interviews with the Principal, Deputy Principal and Name. The purpose of the plan is to assist Name in making the necessary changes that will enable him to achieve success as a student and community member of Newtown High School of the Performing Arts. Name is aware that if he continues his current behaviour he faces possible suspension from school.

Plan Goals:
Goals

School support and intervention:
Support and Intervention

Success Measures:
Success Measures

Declaration:
I am committed to the goals of this negotiated plan and will apply myself fully to its success.

Date: 26/01/2015
Suspension from School

Suspension is only one strategy within the school’s Student Behaviour Management Policy. It is most effective when it highlights the parent(s) or carer(s) responsibility for taking an active role, in partnership with the school, to modify the inappropriate behaviour of their child. The school and the government school system will work with parent(s) or carer(s) with a view to assisting a suspended student to rejoin the school community as quickly as possible.

Suspension allows students time to reflect on their behaviour, to acknowledge and accept responsibility for the behaviours which led to the suspension and to accept responsibility for changing their behaviour to meet the school’s expectations and core philosophy. It also allows time for the school to plan appropriate support for the student to restore them back into the community.

In determining whether a student’s misbehaviour is serious enough to warrant a suspension, the Principal will consider the safety, care and welfare of the student, staff and other students in the school. In most cases a range of appropriate student welfare and discipline strategies will have been implemented and documented before a suspension is imposed. The student must also be provided a formal written caution detailing the inappropriate behaviours, as well as clear expectations of what is required of the student is future.

In circumstances where the range of appropriate student welfare and discipline options have been unsuccessful in resolving the inappropriate behaviour, the Principal may choose to impose a short suspension of up to and including four school days. Short suspensions may be imposed for the following reasons and will be reported in the following categories:

**Short Suspension (6.2)**

1. **Continued Disobedience**
   This includes but is not limited to:
   - Refusal to follow staff instructions
   - Defiance
   - Disrupting other students
   - Minor criminal behaviour related to the school
   - Use of alcohol
   - Repeated use of tobacco

2. **Aggressive Behaviour**
   This including but is not limited to:
   - Hostile behaviour directed towards students, members of staff or other persons, including: damaging the property of the school or students; bullying (including cyberbullying); verbal abuse, and abuse transmitted electronically such as by email, SMS text messages or by other electronic means.
Long Suspension (6.3)

If short suspensions have not resolved the issue of inappropriate behaviour, or if the behaviour is so serious as to warrant a long suspension the Principal may impose a long suspension for up to and including twenty school days. Principals will impose a long suspension for:

- **Physical violence:** Which results in pain or injury, or which seriously interferes with the safety and well being of other students and staff (including sexual or indecent assault).

- **Use or possession of a prohibited weapon, firearm or knife:** When the weapon is one of those listed on Schedule One of the Weapons Prohibition Act. Prohibited weapons include laser pointers, or similar articles with a power output of more than one milliwatt. The student uses a knife or possesses a knife without reasonable cause; the student possesses or uses a firearm of any type.

- **Possession, supply or use of a suspected illegal substance:** This does not include alcohol or tobacco, but does include supplying other students with illegal drugs or restricted substances such as prescription drugs.

- **Serious criminal behaviour related to the school:** Including malicious damage to property (school or community) or against the property or person of a fellow student or staff member inside or outside of school premises. If the incident occurred outside of the school or outside school hours there must be a clear and close relationship between the incident and the school.

- **Use of an implement as a weapon:** When a student uses an implement as a weapon to assault or injure another person (including use of an offensive implement, which is any implement made, or adapted to cause injury to another person).

- **Persistent or Serious misbehaviour:** including repeated refusal to follow the school discipline code; making credible threats against students or staff; behaviour that deliberately and persistently interferes with the rights of other students to learn or teachers to teach including bullying, harassment or victimization; threatens to use a weapon in a way that might seriously interfere with the safety and wellbeing of another person.

The principal will not impose any more than two long suspensions on an individual student in any twelve month period without the approval of the school education director. If after two long suspensions, the matter has not been resolved other strategies must be considered including alternative educational placements or possible expulsion from the school.