



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 of 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 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 local Department of Education and Communities 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 Department of Education and Communities office can provide information about the appeals process.

Bilingual Appeal Forms can be found at <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/suspension/appealproforma.php>

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: https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/policies/student_serv/discipline/stu_discip_gov/PD20060316.shtml or from your local school.

Who can help you?

At our school

	Name	Telephone No.
School Counsellor	_____	_____
Year Advisor	_____	_____
Other School Staff	_____	_____

Local Department of Education and Communities Office

Telephone numbers can be found at the following link

[http:// www.dec.nsw.gov.au/contact-us/](http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/contact-us/)

	Name	Telephone No.
Learning and Engagement Advisor	_____	_____
Learning and Engagement Officer	_____	_____
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

If you need an interpreter to assist you to contact the school, the local Department of Education and Communities office or another agency please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. The operator will get an interpreter on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.