

Behaviour and Discipline Management in Schools

The general situation in Herefordshire is that behaviour is an area of concern with a small minority of pupils but no more than elsewhere in the country. I refer elected members and officers to the report presented at the Scrutiny Committee 13th October 2005 for further detail.

All schools are required to have in place a behaviour policy, which can include an anti-bullying policy. All such policies should be reviewed annually and involve staff, governors, pupils and parents.

Support from the Children and Young People's Directorate is available to schools from:

- **Medical and Behavioural Support Service (MBSS);**
Gives advice, guidance and support, including training, to both primary and secondary schools and pupils specifically focusing on improving behaviour;
- **Herefordshire Psychological Service (HPS);**
Gives advice and guidance on a range of issues including, behaviour;
- **Herefordshire Learning Support Service;**
Gives support, guidance and support for children with learning or language difficulties;
- **The Brookfield School** (Intervention Class for Primary aged pupil);
Offers direct teaching support to children with behavioural difficulties and advice and guidance to primary schools;
- **The Aconbury Centre** (Intervention Support for Secondary KS3 pupils (11 – 14 years);
Offers direct teaching support to children with behavioural difficulties and advice and guidance to secondary schools;
- **Behaviour and Attendance Consultant;**
Gives advice and guidance to schools;
- **Education Welfare Service (EWS);**
Works with pupils and their parents to address attendance issues where behaviour is often an issue;
- **Healthy Schools Team;**
Gives advice and guidance to schools regarding the emotional well-being of pupils and strategies to address behavioural issues, for example, circle time, school councils and so on;
- **The Children's Fund;**
Offers a range of family support initiatives including parenting courses;
- **Social Inclusion Officer;**
Offers advice and guidance to schools with regard to permanent exclusions and preventative work.

Further specialist support is also available from the Primary Care Trust - Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), the voluntary sector - the CLD Youth Counselling Trust, and Connexions through their network of

Personal Assistants and Zigzag (a small team of workers helping young people and their parents with issues of substance misuse).

The above lists are not exhaustive but reflect the main areas of support available to schools, pupils and parents in the area of behaviour management.

The information below may be useful as an objective method of benchmarking the work schools do with regard to behaviour. However, some areas of the country have access to resources and services not available to schools in Herefordshire, or they are on a much smaller scale.

Exclusion Data 2003/4

Permanent Exclusions

	Secondary		Primary		Combined Total
	% of school population	Numbers	% of school population	Numbers	% of school population
England	0.25	8320	0.03	1270	0.13
West Midlands	0.22	850	0.03	120	0.11
Herefordshire	0.26	27	0.03	4	0.14

Fixed Term Exclusions

	Secondary		Primary		Combined Total
	% of school population	Numbers	% of school population	Numbers	% of school population
England	8.66	288040	0.97	41300	4.49
West Midlands	7.58	28820	0.77	3710	3.94
Herefordshire	8.16	855	0.45	61	3.96

NB: No comparative data is available for year 2004/5 yet. However, the numbers permanent exclusions for Herefordshire dropped by 4 to a total of 27 (23 secondary, 4 primary).