



Parent Partnership Service

## Support for parents around exclusion issues

Parent Partnership Service can offer support to parents of children/young people with SEN when they are excluded from school. Parents can contact the PPS helpline (0115 9482888) for telephone advice, and there is a caseworker and a team of volunteers (Independent Parental Advisors) who may be available to provide face-to-face support at meetings eg Discipline Committee or reintegration meetings. Parents who have contacted PPS prior to the DC meeting, and who subsequently wish to make an appeal following a permanent exclusion upheld by school governors, may be able to have support with paperwork for the appeal but it is not possible for the caseworker or volunteer to attend the appeal hearing. Parents who wish to appeal to SEND on grounds of disability discrimination may also have support with paperwork only.

The role of the PPS caseworker is to support parents and children/young people to present their case against the exclusion, and to ensure that their views about appropriate support for them in school are taken into account.

The caseworker and family will discuss issues around reintegration or future placement, whether this is in another school, in the PRU or as a package including alternative placements. The caseworker will liaise between family, school and other professionals to ensure that the family are clear about the process and involved in decisions that are made.

PPS caseworkers and volunteers are expected to operate within DCSF guidance around exclusions at all times; they have accessed appropriate training in the application of this guidance and in the potential subsequent appeal processes.

Where parents wish to call on the services of a solicitor, PPS will withdraw around those particular issues but may continue to support in other areas eg a parent may wish to appeal to SEND and engage a solicitor to take that forward, while PPS would continue to support around a managed move.

For further information please contact the Parent Partnership Service :



0115 9482888



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