**Model Letter 1a: Lunchtime half-day suspension totalling a fixed period suspension of 5 days or less**

**SCHOOL LETTER HEAD (containing Head teacher’s Name and School Address)**

Dear **[Parents Name]**

I am writing to inform you of my decision to suspend **[Child’s Name]** during lunchtimes for **[number of days]** days from **[date]** to **[date]**. **[Child’s Name]** can return for lunchtime as from **[date]**.

I realise that this suspension may well be upsetting for you and your family, but the decision to suspend [**Child’s Name**] has not been taken lightly. [**Child’s Name**] has been suspended for this fixed period because (**Reason for suspension**].

This suspension covers the lunch period only from **[time]** to **[time]** and you are asked to please make arrangements for your child’s supervision away from school during this period.

**[Delete as appropriate]**

As **[Child’s Name]** is eligible to receive a free school meal, I have made arrangements for **him/her** to be provided with a packed lunch for the period of the suspension.

Each lunchtime suspension will count as a half-day suspension and will be added to your child’s record of suspensions.

The total number of days of suspension from this period of lunchtime suspension is **[number of days].**

**[Use this paragraph for pupils of compulsory school age]**

You have a duty to ensure that your child is not present in a public place in school hours during this suspension on **[specify dates]** unless there is reasonable justification for this. I must advise you that you may receive a penalty notice from the local authority if your child is present in a public place during school hours on the specified dates. If so, it will be for you to show reasonable justification.

You should also be aware that if you think this exclusion relates to a disability your child has, and you think disability discrimination has occurred, you have the right to appeal and/or make a claim to First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability). The address to which appeals should be sent is First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability) 1st Floor, Darlington Magistrates Court, Parkgate, Darlington, DL1 1RU Email sendistqueries@hmcts.gsi.gov.uk Telephone 01325 289 350 Website <https://www.gov.uk/courts-tribunals/first-tier-tribunal-special-educational-needs-and-disability>

You have the right to challenge this decision before the **[Governing Body/Academy Trust]**. If you wish make representations please contact [**Name of Contact**] on/at [**Contact Details-Address, Phone Number, email**] as soon as possible. Whilst the governing body has no power to direct reinstatement, they must consider any submissions you make and may place a copy of their findings on your child’s school record.

You also have the right to see and have a copy of [**Name of Child**]’s school record. Due to confidentiality restrictions, you will need to notify me in writing if you wish to be supplied with a copy of [**Name of Child**]’s school record. I will be happy to supply you with a copy if you request it. There may be a charge for photocopying.

You may wish to contact Sarah Rogers, Managed Transfers and Exclusions Manager, if you have any questions about the exclusion procedures on 01744 676210 or by email sarahrogers@sthelens.gov.uk

You may also find it useful to contact the following services for free and impartial information:

St Helens IASS (formerly Parent Partnership) offers impartial information, advice and support to parents of children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities. IASS can be contacted on 01744 673428.

Coram’s Child Law Advice service which can be accessed through the website <https://childlawadvice.org.uk/information-pages/school-exclusion> or by contacting by telephone on 0300 330 5485 from Monday to Friday, 8am – 6pm

ACE (Advisory Centre for Education) can be contacted on 0300 0115 142 from Monday to Wednesday from 10am to 1pm during term time. Information can also be found on the website <http://www.ace-ed.org.uk/>

Independent Provider of Special Education Advice (known as IPSEA – [www.ipsea.org.uk](http://www.ipsea.org.uk) ) is a registered charity. It offers free and independent information, advice and support to help get the right education for children and young people with all kinds of special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities

The statutory exclusions guidance ‘Suspension and Permanent Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England including pupil movement May 2023’ can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion>

Along with information and advice for parents:

 <https://www.gov.uk/school-discipline-exclusions/exclusions>

[**Name of Child**]’s suspension expires on [**Date**] and we expect [**Name of Child**] to be back in school on [**Date**] at [**Time**].

Yours sincerely

**[Name]**

**Head teacher**