**Model Letter 2: Fixed term suspension of 6-15 days where cumulative number of suspensions in one term total less than 16 days**

**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**] for a fixed period of [**period of suspension**]. This means that [**Child’s Name**] will not be allowed in school for this period. The suspension begins on [**date**] and ends on [**date**]. Your child should return to school on **[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**].

**[Use this paragraph only where there is consideration of permanent exclusion i.e. investigations are ongoing and further evidence may come to light]**

In view of the nature of the incident, I feel that it is necessary to conduct further investigation before deciding whether it is appropriate to exclude [**Child’s Name**] permanently.

**[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 the first 5 school days of this suspension, that is on **[specify dates]**. It will be for you to show that there is reasonable justification for this. I must advise you that you may be prosecuted or receive a penalty notice from the local authority if your child is present in a public place on the specified dates without reasonable justification.

We will set work for **[Name of Child]** during the **[first 5]** school days of his **[or her]** suspension **[specify the arrangements for this].** Please ensure that work set by the school is completed and returned to us promptly for marking.

From the **[6th school day of the pupil’s suspension [specify date]** until the expiry of his suspension we will provide suitable full-time education. On **[date]** he should attend **[give name and address of the alternative provider if not the home school]** at **[specify the time – this may not be identical to the start time of the home school]** and report to **[staff member’s name].** **(If applicable – say something about transport arrangements from home to the alternative provider). If not known, say the arrangements for suitable full time education will be notified by a further letter.**

You have the right to request a meeting of the **[governing body/Academy Trust]** to whom representations and my decision to suspend can be reviewed. As the period of this exclusion is more than 5 school days in a term the **[governing body/Academy Trust]** must meet if you request it to do so. The latest date by which the **[governing body/Academy Trust]** must meet, if you request a meeting is [**insert date – no later than 50 school days after the date on which the governing body were notified of this suspension**]**.** If you do wish to challenge the decision to suspend before the **[governing body/Academy Trust]** and wish to be accompanied by a friend or representative please contact [**Name of Contact**] on/at [**Contact Details – Address, Phone Number, email**], as soon as possible. Please advise if you have a disability or special needs which would affect your ability to attend or take part in a meeting at the school. Also, please inform [**contact**] if it would be helpful for you to have an interpreter present at the meeting.

**[Where a public examination will be missed, please insert the following text]**

As a public examination will be missed, the Governing Body/Academy Trust will try to consider the suspension before that date or the Chair of Governing Body/Academy Trust may exceptionally consider the suspension and decide whether or not to reinstate [pupil’s name] or allow return for the duration of the examination.

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 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 Elyse Ledwith, Education and Fair Access Co-ordinator, if you have any questions about the exclusion procedures on 01744 671262 or by email managedtransfersandexclusions@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 exclusion expires on [**Date**] and we expect [**Name of Child**] to be back in school on [**Date**] at [**Time**].

**[Optional paragraph for reintegration interview]**

You (and your child or name of pupil) are invited to attend a reintegration interview with me (alternatively, specify the name of another staff member) at (place) on (date) at time). If that is not convenient, please contact the school before your child is due to return to arrange a suitable alternative date and time. The purpose of the reintegration interview is to discuss how best your child’ return to school can be managed.

Yours sincerely

**[Name]Head teacher**

cc Elyse Ledwith, Education and Fair Access Co-ordinator