



Independent Panel Review Request Form



Trinity MAT

Policy	Independent Panel Review Request Form
Date of review	November 2023
Date of next review	November 2026
Lead professional	Chief Operating Officer
Status	Non-statutory

If you wish to request an Independent Panel Review (IPR) in respect to the decision of Local Governing Body (LGB) upholding the decision of the Executive Principal or Principal to permanently exclude your child from the academy, you need to provide the rationale and justification on the grounds that are legally allowed. An IPR will look at the following elements of the decision of the LGB: illegality, irrationality, procedural impropriety. It has the powers to; uphold the LGB decision, recommend that the decision is reconsidered, or quash the decision and direct that the GB reconsider the matter. *The IPR has no legal powers to overturn a LGBs decision, only to direct the LGB to reconsider, as stated above.*

Therefore, you will need to set out clearly the grounds for an IPR based upon:

1. was the decision unlawful?
2. was the evidence presented by both parties considered by the LGB in a rationale way?
3. was there any procedural impropriety?

Please provide essential information below.

Essential Information	
Date the exclusion hearing took place:	
Name of Parent or Carer requesting the IPR:	
Address of Parent or Carer requesting the IPR:	

Name of pupil/student in relation to the case the IPR is being requested:	
Address of pupil/student in relation to the case the IPR is being requested if not the same as the parent/carer address above:	
You have a right to request a SEN expert to be in attendance for the IPR if granted. Therefore, are you requesting a SEN expert to be present at the IPR if grant?	Yes/No
You have a right to an interpreter to be in attendance, if required, for the IPR if granted. Therefore, are you requesting an interpreter to be present at the IPR if grant?	Yes/No
Please provide a description of any disabilities you believe an IPR may need to take into account if the IPR is granted?	

Please complete the following sections of this form, including providing evidence to justify your statements.

Illegality	
Based upon the guidance 'Suspension and Exclusions from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement (Sept 2023)' how do you believe the LGB acted outside the scope of their legal powers in deciding that the exclusion should be upheld? Please provide evidence to support any statements you make in answering this question.	
Based upon the guidance 'Suspension and Exclusions from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement (Sept 2023)' how do you believe the LGB did not follow the guidance? Please provide evidence to support any statements you make in answering this question.	

Based upon the Equalities Act 2010 how do you believe the LGB failed to meet its duties under the act and justify, with evidence, It discriminated in reaching its decision.	
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Irrationality	
If you believe the LGB did not consider all the evidence in its entirety when making its decision, then please explain why and justify your statement with evidence for consideration.	
If you believe the decision was not proportionate, please explain why and provide evidence that justifies your statement.	

Procedural Impropriety	
If you believe the process of exclusion and LGB decision was not followed as set out in the 'Suspension and Exclusions from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement (Sept 2023)', please explain what was not followed and provide the evidence to justify your statement.	
If you believe 'natural justice' was obfuscated (ie one or both parties did not have the time or space to present their case to the LGB) please explain why and also justify your statement with evidence.	

Please note, your answers to the above questions (one or more) need to be factually accurate and supported with evidence so the consideration of whether to convene a IPR can be taken.

You can seek advice from the following sources and organisations to aid your consideration of the above:

- Coram's Child Law Advice service can be accessed through their website <https://childlawadvice.org.uk/information-pages/school-exclusion/> or contacted on 0300 330 5485 from Monday to Friday, 8am – 6pm.
- ACE education run a limited service and can be reached on 0300 0115 142 on Monday to Wednesday from 10am to 1pm during term time. Information can be found on the website: <http://www.ace-ed.org.uk/>.
- Independent Provider of Special Education Advice (known as IPSEA – 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.
- Wakefield Sendiass for independent SEN advice <https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/wesail/>.

If you require any further information or advice, please contact Trish Henshall (Wakefield's Exclusions Officer) on 01924 307319 exclusions@wakefield.gov.uk.