

## Managed Moves

**Definition:** A managed move is the transfer of a child who is at serious risk of permanent exclusion from his/her school. It is a voluntary agreement between two schools, a child and his/her parents/carers. It allows a child at risk of permanent exclusion to have a trial transfer to another school on a dual registration basis.

Current government guidance (Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England - Statutory guidance for those with legal responsibilities in relation to exclusion 2017) advises school leaders that: *'A pupil at any type of school can also transfer to another school as part of a 'managed move' where this occurs with the consent of the parties involved, including the parents and the admission authority of the school. However, the threat of exclusion must never be used to influence parents to remove their child from the school.'*

### Key Points:

- It should only be used when the child/young person is at serious risk of permanent exclusion.
- **It should be voluntary - parents have to be in agreement.**
- It should never be used as the only alternative to a threatened permanent exclusion (you should not be made to feel like there is no other option).
- It can be positive in some circumstances as it's an opportunity for a fresh start.
- Challenging behaviour often occurs in SEND children and young people when their needs have not been fully identified and appropriate support and reasonable adjustments have not been put in place.
- If your child has SEND and you feel that the lack of appropriate support has led to the behaviour issues then it is vital that a full

- assessment of your child's needs takes place, so that the right support is in place before the child starts at the new setting.
- Schools should never use a managed move as an alternative to initiating a request for EHCP assessment if it is thought to be necessary. A change of school will automatically delay the process while the child settles in to the new school and the school are able to assess the needs.
  - Parents are often encouraged to accept a managed move to avoid risking a permanent exclusion on their child's record. Managed moves are not subject to the same legal protection and scrutiny as a permanent exclusion. There is no automatic review of the head teacher's decision by the governors and no right of parental appeal as it seen as a voluntary decision. For these reasons it is important not to rush into it and to make sure it is the best route for getting the support your child needs to succeed.
  - If you make the decision yourself that your child needs a move to another school then the normal admissions procedures will need to be followed.

**For further information and advice, contact Barnardo's SENDIASS:**

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