

Original Title of Motion	Ending School Exclusions and Preventing Harmful Outcomes
Original Motion	Green Group and Hackney Independent Socialist Group
Proposed New Title of Motion	Renewing our Commitment to <u>Further Strengthen School Inclusion and Reduce</u> Reducing School Exclusions, Preventing Harmful Outcomes
Proposing Amendments	Labour Group
Proposer and Seconder of Amendments	Proposer: Cllr Sophie Conway Seconder: Cllr Margaret Gordon
For Consideration by	Full Council
Date of Meeting	28 January 2026

Underlined text = proposed additional wording

~~Strikethrough text~~ = proposed deletions

The amendments set out below were received by the Monitoring Officer in accordance with [Part 4A Paragraph 17.8 of the Council's Constitution](#)

Hackney Council notes:

- [Strengthening school inclusion is a priority, working in partnership with the voluntary sector, local and central government](#)
- [The 2025 inclusion Parliamentary Roundtable co-chaired by the Rt Hon Diane Abbott and Deputy Mayor Cllr Anntoinette Bramble 2025.](#)
- ~~Hackney Council's~~ The adoption of the [Hackney Education No Need to Exclude](#) guidance (2015), Hackney's commitment as a signatory to the London Inclusion Charter, and Council motion *Mental Health: A Human Right for All* adopted in September 2023. ~~(1-3)~~
- ~~The Deputation to Council on 24 July 2024, which raised concerns that No Need to Exclude guidance was not consistently followed, questioned oversight, and highlighted evidence of exclusion to prison pipeline affecting Hackney children. (4)~~
- Hackney has the highest rates of permanent exclusions in London and second highest suspensions. Suspensions rose from 2,775 to 3,207 and permanent exclusions increased from 33 to 52 between 2022/2023 and

2023/2024. ~~(5-7)~~

6. Exclusions and disciplinary sanctions disproportionately affect Black and Global Majority pupils and intersect with unmet [Special educational needs and disabilities](#) (SEND), safeguarding vulnerability, and involvement with social care and Youth Justice services: ~~(8)~~
7. Recent safeguarding practice reviews, including the Mossbourne review, highlight harm caused by punitive disciplinary cultures, particularly for pupils with SEND and those from ethnically minority backgrounds: ~~(9)~~

The Council recognises:

- ~~8. That exclusions, suspensions and managed moves engage safeguarding, SEND and equality duties, and children can become invisible through Children Missing Education, off-rolling, informal exclusions and unmanaged managed moves.~~
9. The Council's statutory duties under Section 19 of the Education Act 1996 to secure suitable education for children who are out of school, aligned to their age, ability, aptitude, SEND and best interests, and its obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty (Section 149 Equality Act 2010) to prevent foreseeable harm and discrimination.

Hackney Council resolves to:

10. Continue working with headteachers, governing bodies and academy trusts across Hackney, including through existing service-level agreements and partnership arrangements, to promote and ensure compliance ~~behaviour policies comply~~ with current DfE guidance, safeguarding requirements, SEND ~~legislation, duties and anti-racist principles~~, equalities legislation including (the Public Sector Equality Duty) ~~and anti-racist principles~~, ensuring exclusion is always a genuine last resort.
11. Implement our Education Strategy, shaped by parents, carers, schools, and local voluntary sector through; including the work on Hackney Education Additional Learning Service to strengthen a trauma-informed inclusion approach.
12. *Ensure no pupil with identified or suspected SEND is excluded unless statutory SEND duties, reasonable adjustments and early intervention have been demonstrably met and evidenced.*
13. *Continue to implement the recommendations of the 2021 Children and Young People's Scrutiny review ~~(10)~~ and any further recommendations arising from scrutiny of school behaviour and exclusion practice.*
14. Continue to Ppromote trauma-informed, culturally competent and anti-racist practice across Hackney schools, informed by local data on disproportionality

in exclusions and disciplinary sanctions.

15. Continue to strengthen peer support and advocacy for parents and carers. Strengthen Enhance SEND independent advice and guidance wrap-around, family-friendly support to prevent exclusions, including accessible communication on the Local Offer and early sign posting to access to independent legal advocacy where exclusion or managed move is being considered.
16. Through our School Improvement Partners we will develop our approach to discussing and monitoring managed moves within schools. Ensure all managed moves are overseen by the Local Authority, with a timely, child-centred handover between schools, involving families and relevant professionals, and full sharing of safeguarding and SEND information.
17. Improve transparency by requiring early escalation of suspected off-rolling, and by requiring early escalation of suspected off-rolling, and publishing validated exclusions data to identify trends. Hackney Education will continue to monitor any potential off rolling and escalate accordingly.
18. Develop an Hackney Alternative Education Learning Service inclusion panel with oversight from the Director of Education to review potential or actual exclusions promptly and prevent exclusion wherever possible.
19. Continue to advocate nationally for a fully inclusive education system and oppose policies that weaken local authority accountability for inclusion, safeguarding and SEND provision.

References

- 1) <https://www.hackneyservicesforschools.co.uk/system/files?file=extranet/No%20Need%20to%20Exclude.pdf>
- 2) <https://www.london.gov.uk/media-centre/mayors-press-release/mayor-launches-londons-inclusion-charter-the-first-city-wide-of-its-type-to-help-tackle-rising-suspensions-and-thousands-of-children-losing-out-on-learning>
- 3) <https://hackney.moderngov.co.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=42041>
- 4) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XALu24KsH6k>
- 5) <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/data-tables/suspensions-and-permanent-exclusions-in-england/2023-24>
- 6) <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/suspensions-and-permanent-exclusions-in-england>
- 7) <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/suspensions-and-permanent-exclusions-in-england>
- 8) <https://cityhackneyhealth.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Hackney-and-City-Health-Needs-Assesment-for-Children-and-Young-People-with-Special-Educational-Needs-and-Disabilities-1.pdf>
- 9) <https://chsep.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/MVPA-LGSPR-Report-Published.pdf>
- 10) <https://hackney.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s73176/Item%206a%20-%20Outcome%20from%20School%20Exclusions%20Report.pdf>