



EDUCATION EXECUTIVE

**CONSULTATION ON DRAFT GUIDANCE – INCLUDED, ENGAGED AND INVOLVED
PART 2: A POSITIVE APPROACH TO MANAGING SCHOOL EXCLUSIONS**

RESPONSE BY WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL EDUCATION SERVICE

REPORT BY HEAD OF EDUCATION (QUALITY ASSURANCE)

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise Elected Members of a suitable response to the Scottish Government consultation on draft guidance - included, engaged and involved part 2: a positive approach to managing school exclusions.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Education Executive approve the response attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focusing on our customers' needs• Being honest, open and accountable• Providing equality of opportunities• Developing employees• Making the best use of our resources• Working in Partnership
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	<p>The Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004.</p> <p>The Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2009. The Equality Act 2010.</p> <p>United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: Arts. 3.1, 12.</p>
III Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	None (at present)

IV Consultations

Additional Support Needs management team

Education Psychological Service

Education PDSP

TERMS OF REPORT

1. Background

The purpose of the guidance is to develop and clarify national policy on exclusion from schools in the context of national and local government responsibilities. The overarching aim is to support whole school communities, learning establishments and their partners to keep all children fully included, engaged and involved in their education, wherever it takes place.

2. Proposal

The guidance:

- develops policy on exclusions in the context of current joint aims and priorities for children and young people including the national outcomes, *Curriculum for Excellence* and Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)
- summarises current legislation and regulations on exclusions and other relevant legislation and regulations including The Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 and The Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2009.

E. CONCLUSION

The guidance is largely reflective and supportive of current West Lothian Council policies, procedure and practice. It will provide an opportunity and audit tool for schools and officers to revisit policies, procedure and practice and ensure that these are fully reflective of current national policy and emerging best practice, thus supporting continuous validated self evaluation. This will ensure that all of our establishments are complying with all legislative requirements and supporting all of our young people to achieve within the four capacities of curriculum for excellence, as confident individuals, effective contributors, successful learners and responsible citizens.

The guidance provides a clear summary of the legislative position around exclusion from schools in Scotland.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Scottish Government consultation on draft guidance - included, engaged and involved Part 2: a positive approach to managing school exclusions.

Link to full consultation document

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/10/06092326>

Appendices/Attachments: 1

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