

Managed Moves

Thursday 30 September, 2021 – 2.00pm to 3.00pm
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Plan for today's session

- Introduction
- What is a Managed Move?
- Good Practice/Principles of Managed Moves
- Circumstances Where a Managed Move is Appropriate
- Managed Move Process
- Key Points
- What Next?
- Exclusions Team Contact Details

Introduction

- One of the principles underpinning national and local policies for managing exclusions states that:
 - *“Schools in an area should be encouraged and enabled to take collective responsibility for preventing exclusions as far as possible, including developing effective alternatives to exclusion, and for making educational provision for those who are excluded.”* DfE Exclusion Guidance 2012
- One suggested approach is to have “Managed Moves”, where a pupil takes part in a carefully planned and supported transfer from one school to another to try to avoid the risk of permanent exclusion.

What is a Managed Move?

- A supported change of school to offer a fresh start to a young person.
- The move includes a “trial period” but this should not be indefinite - usually a maximum of 18 weeks* during which time a decision should be made if the change of school is to be made permanent.
- Until a final decision is made, in accordance with The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006, the pupil remains on the register of the “home” school. The attendance register must be kept up to date at the home school with the new school providing attendance information on at least a weekly basis

*BCC Managed Move Guidance September 2014 recirculated Nov 2020

Good Practice/Principles of a Managed Move

- The young person's needs must be paramount
- A managed move should only take place if all parties consider a fresh start may address a young person's difficulties and a school can be identified to offer that opportunity – this is a judgement call
- Should only take place if parents and pupil are in agreement
- A written agreement ensures all parties are aware of the process and their responsibilities. Minuted meetings provide clarity for all
- A managed move should be time limited
- Primary aged pupils are often less “mobile” but successful primary managed moves do take place
- The pupil must remain on the roll of the home school during the managed move

Good Practice/Principles of a Managed Move cont

- The pupil should not be removed from the home school roll until all parties are in agreement in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006
- Schools must notify the Local Authority of any such removals from roll
- The home school must retain responsibility for the pupil if the managed move is not successful – options could include a return to the home school, governors considering a previously revoked permanent exclusion or exploration of further outcomes such as an alternative provision placement, COBS placement etc. Pupils attending an alternative provider should stay on the roll of their home school.
- The new school can terminate the managed move arrangement at any time
- How many managed moves a pupil takes part in is a judgement call for individual Headteachers.
- Cross LA managed moves are possible. A written agreement would still be expected.
- Managed moves initiated when a child moves across City can cause difficulties if they break down as the new address may make travel to the old school unreasonable due to distance.
- Children moving to a new area are entitled to a local school place and fair access protocols may be more appropriate to follow

Circumstances where a Managed Move is Appropriate

- Where behaviour concerns have been raised and a number of strategies have been introduced to improve behaviour without success.
- The family are in full agreement with a managed move for a fresh start.
- In Birmingham we see two sets of circumstances where a managed move is considered
 1. Where a return to the home school is a possible outcome if the managed move is unsuccessful
 2. The managed move is used as an alternative to permanent exclusion – if it is unsuccessful, a return to the home school is not possible and it is likely that the previously revoked permanent exclusion will be considered by governors.
- All three parties (home school, new school, family) are in agreement
- A managed move cannot be “imposed” on a young person or used as a “threat” instead of permanent exclusion.

Managed Move Process

- The process is straightforward and a Managed Move Agreement document is helpful in ensuring all parties are fully informed of the procedures to be followed and possible outcomes. [Full details of the Managed Move Agreement and Flowchart are available at this link.](#)
- Briefly:
 - Home school, family agree the need for a move. The parents' leaflet can be shared at this stage (available at link above)
 - If child is LAC – social worker and virtual school are involved.
 - If child has an EHCP, essential to check with SENAR whether a managed move is appropriate
 - Headteacher of home school negotiates with Headteachers of prospective schools. Primary Consortia, Secondary Network Sharing Panel may have their own protocols based on general guidance
 - Family visit new school
 - Planning meeting held with all three parties at which Managed Move Agreement is prepared.
 - Managed Move Agreement signed by representatives of both schools, family (parent and pupil) and any supporting agencies

Managed Move Process cont

- Pupil begins at new school but remains on roll of home school marked code “D” for dual registered on home school register. The receiving school should mark their registers with absent/present codes. Attendance data should be shared regularly (weekly)
- Review(s) attended by representatives of both schools and family. Notes should be taken of the review meeting(s)
- After a maximum 18 week period a final review meeting takes place
 - If progress is OK – pupil is placed on roll of receiving school and taken off roll of home school
 - If problems arise or the receiving Headteacher is considering ending the managed move, an urgent review meeting should be held to agree the way forward. This could result in the managed move being terminated or further support put in place. Again, any such meeting should be minuted. Any decision to terminate should be confirmed in writing with the date stated.
- If excluded during managed move – home school mark “D” and receiving school mark “E” to ensure exclusion is not double recorded. Consider bringing review forward
- Managed moves are well embedded within Secondary Networks and Sharing Panels and all their support and good work is very much appreciated and reflected in effective managed moves which have seen over 500 secondary permanent exclusions revoked during the last 5 years

Key Points

- Managed moves can be used as an early strategy:
 - when a fresh start is considered a helpful way forward and a return to the original school is possible or
 - as a process to avoid a permanent exclusion where a return to the original school is not possible
- The three parties involved (original school, new school and family) must all fully understand the process and possible outcomes
- The managed move process
- The importance of reviews and good record-keeping
- Good practice and principles

What Next?

- The Timpson Review of School Exclusion (May 2019) advised;
“Recommendation: DfE should use best practice on managed moves gathered by this review and elsewhere to enable them to consult and issue clear guidance on how they should be conducted, so that they are used consistently and effectively.”
- The Government’s response to the review (7 May, 2019);
“For the first time, we will provide guidance on the use of in-school units and ‘managed moves.’”
- [The original review and government response can be accessed at this link.](#)
- We await that good practice guidance

Exclusion Team Contacts for any Advice re Managed Moves

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