

SPSO decision report

Case: 201102837, The Highland Council
Sector: local government
Subject: secondary school, exclusion
Outcome: some upheld, action taken by body to remedy, no recommendations

Summary

The council decided to exclude Mr C's son from school for five days. He said that they improperly excluded his son and that this breached his rights to an education. He also complained that the council failed to acknowledge responsibility for what he considered was an improper exclusion.

Although we cannot look at matters of discipline in a school, we can look to see whether the correct processes were followed in deciding to exclude a child. In this case we found they were not and we upheld this complaint. As the council had already acknowledged this, rescinded the exclusion and removed any reference to this in the pupil's records, we took no further action.

We did not uphold Mr C's other complaints, as we found that the school had not breached Mr C's son's rights to an education and that they had acknowledged their failures at an early stage.