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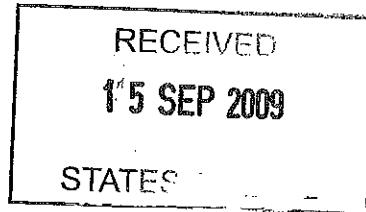
States of Jersey Police

Making Jersey Safer



10 September 2009

Deputy Trevor Pitman
Chairman
Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Sun-Panel
(Student Suspensions Review)
Scrutiny Office
States Greffe
St Helier JE2 3ZA



Dear Deputy Pitman

Thank you for your letter inviting response from representative groups in relation to the review being undertaken by the Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel in relation to Student suspensions.

It is my understanding that there is a set structure of discipline procedures within schools. Where a student's behaviour is such that it warrants the most severe sanction, a student can be suspended from the establishment for a set period of time, the sanction being imposed with the support of the parents.

We are unable to ascertain how many excluded pupils come to the attention of the police however comments from our community officers, have suggested that only a small number of pupils come to the notice of the police, whilst excluded from school.

In summary there is no evidence to suggest that school suspensions are a significant factor affecting levels of crime and anti-social behaviour in Jersey

States of Jersey Police fully support the concept of targeted early intervention as a proven way to make a difference to these children. Whereas the Police will sometimes have a role to play in this process through school-based Multi Agency Support Team meetings, which also include staff from YAT, the Children's Service and Probation, I believe that the primary responsibility for this approach rests with Education and Social Services.

Yours sincerely,

David Warcup
Acting Chief Officer