

**Behaviour Policy: Misuse of Drugs (Students)**

**9c (i)**

<b>Responsible for Initiating Review of Policy</b>	SLT
<b>Committee to Review</b>	SLT
<b>Last Review Date</b>	September 2023
<b>Review Period</b>	3 years
<b>Approved by (Committee and Date)</b>	SLT September 2023
<b>Approved by Board of Governors</b>	
<b>Effective Date of Policy</b>	September 2023
<b>Next Review Date</b>	September 2026
<b>Related Policies</b>	Behaviour Policy: General  Behaviour Policy: Pupil Discipline and Exclusion Policy  Use of Reasonable Force

The School's Code of Conduct requires that pupils do not consume or otherwise use drugs of any sort without the knowledge and permission of the School Nurse.

Drugs fall broadly into two categories:

- over-the-counter and prescribed drugs taken in accordance with the doctor's/manufacturer's instructions as to dosage.
- illegal drugs, cigarettes, alcohol, etc.

The remainder of the policy relates to the second category

### **Aims**

- to educate the pupils on the dangers of substance abuse
- to establish an ethos where older pupils set a good example to younger pupils.
- to encourage the pupils to lead a healthy lifestyle and have the confidence and skills to make good lifestyle choices

### **Principles**

Respect for the law and for the well being of the school community are two of the key principles upon which the school rests. If a pupil violates these key principles that pupil forfeits the right to claim continued membership of the school community.

### **The School accepts responsibility for:**

- the exercise of proper care and control of pupils when they are under the jurisdiction of the School
- the liaison with parents in respect of concerns about a pupil's social behaviour inside or outside the School
- establishing and applying fair and proportionate sanctions associated with a pupil on the School premises found in possession of, or found to be involved in the handling of vapes, alcohol, cigarettes or illegal drugs
- being properly prepared to deal with incidents of substance abuse on the School premises

### **Practice**

#### **1. Liaison with parents in respect of concerns about a pupil's social behaviour inside or outside the School.**

Our monitoring and recording of any concerns staff may have about a pupil's behaviour is well developed. It may well be in school that the first signs of trouble are noted; failure to complete homework tasks, lack of concentration, discernible changes in the handling of relationships, lack of punctuality, deterioration in personal appearance are all potential indications of a pupil at risk. Any one of these indicators will lead in due course to a contact with parents; a combination of factors will indicate that contact with parents should be made without delay, so that the underlying cause for concern can be identified.

## **2. Clarification of the sanctions**

Parents will always be informed when a pupil's found to be in possession of, or found to be involved in the handling of vapes, alcohol, cigarettes or illegal drugs. Such items, along with lighters or matches will be confiscated and the pupil sanctioned, usually by being denied free circulation for a time at break times and lunchtimes. Repeated offences will lead to the pupil's future in the school being reviewed. The Head reserves the right to permanently exclude any pupil found in possession of illegal drugs.

A written record of every instance will be placed in the pupil's personal file and will be taken into account in the preparation of a school reference.

It is an offence:

- to supply or offer to supply a controlled drug to another person
- to be in possession of, or to possess with intent to supply to another person, a controlled drug
- for the occupier or someone concerned with the management of the premises knowingly to permit or suffer on those premises the use, supply, attempted supply or offering to supply of any controlled drug.

Incidents related to alcohol, cigarettes and illegal drugs will be considered as serious breaches of the School's behaviour/discipline policies and will be treated as such. The Head will decide if it is appropriate to suspend the pupil pending the results of an investigation.

Only the Head has the authority to exclude a pupil.

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

Behaviour Policy: General

Behaviour Policy: Pupil Discipline and Exclusion Policy

Use of Reasonable Force