



DRUGS POLICY

GOVERNING BODY APPROVAL:
Autumn Term 2020/21

COMMITTEE WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR MONITORING
AND REVIEW:
[Personnel Committee](#)

NEXT REVIEW DATE: Autumn 2021/22

INTRODUCTION:

- The school does not condone the misuse of drugs and alcohol or the illegal supply or possession of these substances, by staff or pupils in the school.
- The designated member of staff with overall responsibility for all drug issues within the school is the Senior Vice Principal.
- The school aims to provide clear guidance to staff, governors, parents and pupils on its strategy for drug education & prevention and the management of drug-related incidents.
- The policy and any sanctions apply to all pupils on the school roll - see *Zero Tolerance Behaviour Structure* (Appendix C). Any staff misconduct relating to drugs will be dealt with in accordance with disciplinary procedures.
- The policy will be developed through consultation with pupils, parents, governors, teachers and support staff.

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- The school acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of

young

people, and through the general ethos of the school, will seek to persuade pupils in need of support to come forward. 1) Link Drugs Co-ordinator

2) School Council

3) Mentoring

4) Connexions

DEFINING THE SCHOOL BOUNDARIES:

During the school day and school term the physical boundaries of the school define the extent of the school premises. However school rules and expectations of behaviour extend further on the way to and from school, during school visits, trips and residential stays. The actions cited within this policy apply on any school-related excursion. The school will liaise closely with any parent groups and Governing body to determine the extent of shared responsibility on journeys to and from school.

DEFINITION OF DRUGS:

The definition of a drug given by the UN office on Drugs and Crime is "A substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave". The policy is concerned with all legal drugs including **alcohol** and **tobacco**, all illegal drugs, volatile substances and over the counter prescription medicines.

EDUCATION & PREVENTION:

- The school believes that it has a duty to inform and educate young people on issues of drug use and misuse. The school takes a pro-active stance on this matter, believing that health education is a vital part of the personal and social education of every pupil.
- Drug education in the school is delivered within a PSHE framework and aims to provide all pupils with knowledge, skills and attitudes to be able to make informed decisions about rejecting drugs. - See Appendix 1

RESPONDING TO DRUG-RELATED INCIDENTS:

In all situations involving drugs the following guidelines apply:

- The needs of the individual will come first
- All situations will be carefully considered before deciding on the response.
- All incidents will be reported to the Principal, Drug education/pastoral support co-ordinator
- Parents/Carers will be informed
- The involvement of external agencies will be considered.
- Responses may include a variety of sanctions, which could involve both a disciplinary and a counselling approach.
- All incidents will be recorded in the drug incident book and held internally. Data protection laws will apply.

Before deciding on a response the school will consider each substance incident individually and

O recognise that a variety of responses will be necessary. Whilst we recognise that the social

inclusion agenda highlights the risk of leaving the young person more vulnerable to exposure to drugs if they are excluded, the school firmly believes that drugs are injurious and corrupting. As a result we will not hesitate to take the strongest possible action against any pupil who is involved in drug use either within the school, in its environs or whilst in school uniform. Those who therefore choose to involve themselves with drugs could well face the possibility
C of permanent exclusion.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL:

In every case concerning school visitors involved with drug education, the following guidelines will apply:

- They will receive a copy of the school drug policy and be expected to follow school procedures.
- PSHE co-ordinators or the drug education co-ordinator will work closely with the visitor to ensure that their input supports the overall aims of the drug policy and is an integrated element of the curriculum, with appropriate planning, preparatory and follow up work.
- Visitors will not be left alone with a class or pupils unless they have been CRB checked.
- Classroom teachers will be present during the visitor's input in order to provide appropriate follow up work.
- All visits will be co-ordinated by the Vice Principal, Senior Vice Principal, Healthy Schools co-ordinator or PSHE/ Drug co-ordinator, who will inform the Principal.

Visitor Protocols can be found in the Brent & Harrow Healthy Schools Partnership Directory, available to all schools.

DRUGS WHICH MAY BE AUTHORISED IN SCHOOLS

Illegal drugs have no place in schools. However, there are instances where other drugs may legitimately be in school.

Medicines

Some pupils may require medicines that have been prescribed for their medical condition during the school day. These are kept in a secure location. Each medicine is kept in a separate box with the pupil's details written on top. A pupil medicine folder also details all the different medical issues that affect pupils across the school.

NCC does not keep non-prescribed medicines on site and therefore cannot give pupils such medications.

APPENDIX 1

AREAS COVERED BY NCC PASTORAL PROGRAMME

KEY STAGE 3 & 4

- School Policy and Procedures
- Information on drugs and their effects legal and illegal
- The Law
- Peer pressure and decision making
- Advise and support - internally and externally
- Attitudes and beliefs about drugs and drug users, including cultural influences
- Impact of media and advertising

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APPENDIX2

PROCEDURES FOR RESPONDING TO DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS

A) EMERGENCY

Where a young person has lost consciousness as a result of drug use or has gone into coma through overdosing.

ACTION

- Call staff with First Aid qualifications
- Do not panic or leave person alone
- Place the person in the recovery position
- Telephone 999 for an ambulance arrange for staff member to accompany
- Telephone the parent / guardian
- The person's friend should be questioned to determine which substance has been used. Evidence of tablets, bottles, syringes etc. should be gathered (samples of vomited material may also be needed.)
- Report the incident to nominated member of staff (**Senior VicePrincipal**)

B) INTOXICATION

Where a young person is intoxicated but conscious.

ACTION

- It is difficult to talk to a person who is intoxicated or "high" and therefore, it is important to keep them under observation.
- Sit them in a quiet room or area.
- Ensure another of staff is with you as the young person's behaviour may be unpredictable.
- Ensure good ventilation.
- Help to calm them down if they are distressed.
- First Aid should be administered if necessary by a qualified first aider.
- Contact parents / guardians.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. Schools have "in loco parentis" responsibilities to individual pupils and the whole school community.