

DRUGS EDUCATION & PROTOCOLS POLICY

Adopted by AAC:

Autumn 2018

High Expectations, Support, Challenge
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1. Aims and Objectives

The aim of Tregonwell Academy drugs and alcohol policy is:

- a) To ensure the policy is appropriate to the needs of our pupils
- b) To clarify the school's role in alcohol and drug prevention

The policy will provide information about procedures in response to any alcohol or drug related incident and provide guidance to teachers, support staff and outside visitors.

Tregonwell Academy takes a whole school approach on the issue of drugs as part of the commitment to being a healthy school.

This policy relates to the school's PSHE Policy, Equal Opportunities, Confidentiality Policy, Behaviour Support Policy, Health & Safety Policy and Child Protection Policy.

2. Definition

The definition of drugs for the purpose of this policy is as follows:

Legal drugs:

- a) Alcohol
- b) Tobacco
- c) Solvents
- d) Over the counter drugs
- e) Prescribed drugs
- f) Legal Highs

Illegal drugs:

- a) Cannabis
- b) Ecstasy
- c) Heroin
- d) Crack/cocaine
- e) LSD
- f) Any other classified illegal drugs

The school believes that the possession and use of alcohol and drugs in school or during the school day is inappropriate.

The drugs listed above are not permitted to be brought, sold or otherwise obtained on school premises during the school day, including when pupils are on school visits.

These rules also apply to adults working at and for the school.

Individual exceptions and procedures will be made for pupils who need to take prescribed medicines.

3. Drugs Education

The school provides a drug education curriculum as part of PSHE (see PHSE Policy). This part of the school curriculum will:

- a) Enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, exploring their own and other people's attitudes and developing and practising skills.

- b) Promote positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles
- c) Provide accurate information about substances
- d) Increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse
- e) Encourage an understanding for those experiencing or likely to experience substance abuse
- f) Widen understanding about related health and social issues, e.g sex, crime, HIV, AIDS
- g) Seek to minimise the risks that users and potential users face
- h) Enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support.

The school co-operates with other agencies such as social services, community police, Addaction and health and drug agencies to deliver its commitment to drugs education.

The Associate Principal takes overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation, for liaison with the AAC, parents and appropriate outside agencies.

4. Drugs Policy Protocols (Responses to incidents of drug abuse on the school premises)

The school will consider each substance incident individually and recognises that a variety of responses may be necessary in dealing with them. The school will also take into very careful consideration the implications of any action it may take as it seeks to balance the interests of the pupil involved with other school members and the local community. However, the following responses are those which will be adopted in most cases.

- a) All suspected incidents of possession of substance (as defined in the policy) should be reported to a member of the Senior Leadership Team immediately.
- b) In instances involving substance misuse or supply on the premises, and following discussion between staff members who know pupils well, parents will be informed at the earliest opportunity. In the event of it being an illegal substance (Class C) the Police will also be informed and the incident referred to the Education Welfare Officer. He/she will then liaise with Addaction/or other appropriate professional with a view to providing multi-agency support
- c) If an incident occurs involving the use of a Class A or B drug on the premises, the pupil will receive an automatic fixed term exclusion pending an investigation into the circumstances of the incident. Parents will be informed along with the Police and the Education Welfare Officer. Referral will be made to Addaction/or other appropriate professional with a view to providing multi-agency support.
- (d) If a pupil admits to using or supplying substances off the premises a member of the senior leadership team should be informed so that appropriate action may be taken.

Permanent exclusion may be warranted as a final sanction when all other reasonable steps have been taken.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Equal Opportunities Policy.

The AAC will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness.

A Record of Incident Involving an Unauthorised Drug should be completed on all occasions by the Senior Leader overseeing the incident (See Appendix 1)

Key

PHSE -	Personal Health & Social Education
SLT-	Senior Leadership Team
LSD -	Lysergic Acid Diethylamide
HIV -	Human Immune deficiency Virus
AIDS-	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AAC -	Academy Advisory Committee
GP -	General Practitioner
CEO -	Chief Executive Officer
ACPO -	Association of Chief Police Officer

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RECORD OF INCIDENT INVOLVING UNAUTHORISED DRUGS

Tick to indicate the category:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Drug or paraphernalia found ON school premises | Pupil disclosure of drug use |
| Emergency/intoxication | Disclosure of parent/carer drug misuse |
| Pupil in possession of unauthorised drug | Parent/Carer expresses concern |
| Pupil supplying unauthorised drug on school premises | Incident occurring OFF school premises |

Name of pupil:..... Name of School:.....

Pupils Form:.....(for school records only)

Age of Pupil:..... Male/Female.....

Time of incident :.....AM/PM

Ethnicity of pupils:..... Date of incident:.....

Tick box if second or subsequent incident involving same pupil

Report form completed by:.....

First Aid given?	Ambulance/Doctor called? ...(delete as necessary)
Yes No	Yes called by:

First Aid given by:	No	Time:
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Drug involved (if known)	Drug found/removed?
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YES/NO

(eg. Alcohol, Paracetamol, Ecstasy)

Senior Staff involved:

Where found/seized:.....

Name & Signature of witness:

.....

.....

Disposal arranged with	(Police/parents/other):.....
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At time:.....

If police, incident

Reference number:.....

Name of parent/carer informed:.....(for school records only)

Informed by:.....At time:

Brief description of incident (including any physical symptoms):

Other action taken: (e.g. Addaction or other agency involved. Educational Psychologist report requested. Case conference called. Pupils/staff informed. Sanctions imposed. GP/Police consulted.

DRUG SITUATIONS – MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

The procedures for an emergency apply when a person is at immediate risk of harm. A person who is unconscious, having trouble breathing, seriously confused or disoriented or who has taken a harmful toxic substance, should be responded to as an emergency.

Your main responsibility is for any pupil at immediate risk, but you also need to ensure the well-being and safety of others. Put into practice your school's first-aid procedures. **If in any doubt, call medical help.**

1. Always

- a) Assess the situation
- b) If a medical emergency, send for medical help and ambulance.

2. Before assistance arrives

If the person is conscious:

- a) Ask them what has happened and to identify any drug used
- b) Collect any drug sample and any vomit for medical analysis
- c) **Do not** induce vomiting
- d) **Do not** chase or over-excite them if intoxicated from inhaling a volatile substance
- e) Keep them under observation, warm and quiet.

3. It the person is unconscious:

- a) Ensure that they can breathe and place in the recovery position
- b) **Do not** move them if a fall is likely to have led to spinal or other serious injury which may not be obvious
- c) **Do not** give anything by mouth
- d) **Do not** attempt to make them sit or stand
- e) **Do not** leave them unattended or in the charge of another pupil
- f) Notify parents/carers

4. For needle stick (sharps) injuries:

- a) Encourage wound to bleed.
- b) **Do not** suck.
- c) Wash with soap and water.
- d) Dry and apply waterproof dressing
- e) If used/dirty needle seek advice from a doctor.

5. When medical help arrives:

- a) Pass on any information available, including vomit and any drug samples.

Complete a medical record form as soon as you have dealt with the emergency.

(Adapted from: The Right Responses [Drug Scope, 1999])

GUIDANCE ON THE USE OF SNIFFER DOGS AND DRUG TESTING

Principals are within their rights to invite the police or private companies to bring sniffer dogs onto Academy premises or employ drug testing. They should, however, involve local partners, including the police and consider the factors outlined below.

1. Involvement of sniffer dogs at the request of the CEO

Where a school believes that there is reasonable evidence of possession or supply of suspected illegal drugs they should consult their local police. The advice from ACPO is that local police, if they are to respond with the use of sniffer dogs, should do so as part of a warrant-led operation, unless evidence may be lost by delaying the search.

However, schools considering sniffer dog searches **without the authority of a police warrant should exercise extreme caution** before doing so. They should consider very carefully whether such action:

- a) is consistent with the pastoral responsibility of the school to create a supportive environment
- b) is culturally insensitive – for example, dogs are considered unclean in Muslim and Buddhist cultures
- c) will lead to labelling and be damaging to pupils concerned
- d) will result in appropriate support for pupils most in need
- e) is feasible and an effective use of school resources, and those of the police, where involved.

The above considerations apply equally to drug testing.

Where such action is planned for the purposes of detection schools are advised to make sure, in advance, that:

- a) the intention to use such an approach is clearly stated in the school's drug policy developed in consultation with pupils, parents, staff, governors and the whole school community
- b) Parents/carers have given their consent (usually in writing) to the proposed use of sniffer dogs at the request of the CEO. This is good practice rather than a legal requirement.
- c) Procedures are in place to remove pupils for whom consent is not given
- d) They have considered what action will be taken if drugs are found on any member of the school community (including staff and visitors), and that this has been communicated clearly and is consistent with responses to other drug incidents
- e) They are able to be sensitive to and respect the right to privacy of pupils whom the dog may identify either because they are taking prescription medicines or have been exposed to an environment where others have used drugs
- f) Plans are in place to deal with potential media interest.

In addition to informing parents/carers of the intention to use such an approach (and seeking their

consent – see above), parents/carers should be notified immediately after such action has taken place.

2. Involvement of sniffer dogs purely as a deterrent

A Principal requesting the use of sniffer dogs solely as a deterrent, where there are no reasonable grounds for suspicion and where prior consent has not been sought, will need to consider possible challenges by parents and pupils under the Human Rights Act.

Schools should ensure that if sniffer dogs are used for detection or as a deterrent, they form part of an on-going whole school approach to managing drugs on school premises rather than an isolated action.

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