



Drugs And Alcohol Policy

Reviewed: January 2022

Next review: January 2024

January 2022	Policy Written	James Bancroft, Principal
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This policy was reviewed at the Local Advisory Board Meeting in Term 3, 2021 to 2022.



Drugs and Alcohol Policy

Wistaston Church Lane Academy has a zero tolerance for the misuse of drugs and alcohol on our premises. This policy has been developed in conjunction with DfE guidance to ensure that everyone is aware of the risks posed by the misuse of drugs and alcohol.

We are committed to:

- Upholding the Health and Safety Policy already in place at the school
- Providing a safe and healthy environment which is conducive to the education of the children in the school
- Providing a robust policy which outlines our zero tolerance approach to drug and alcohol misuse
- Developing and improving the policy by reviewing it after any incident
- Educating our children on the dangers of drug and alcohol misuse

Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to relevant legislation and guidance, including, but not limited to:

- DfE (2020) Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)
- The Children and Families Act (2014)
- The Education Act (2011)
- The Health Act (2006)

This policy will be implemented in conjunction with the school policies, including, but not limited to:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Health and Safety
- Relationships, Sex and Health Education
- Administering Medication

Key Roles and Responsibilities

The Principal is responsible for:

- Dealing with any alcohol and drug related issues within the school
- Reporting any relevant issues to the Local Advisory Board

All staff members are responsible for:

- Being vigilant in order to identify alcohol and drug related issues
- Delivering Relationships, Sex and Health Education lessons within the framework of the policy
- Supporting the Principal in dealing with alcohol and drug related issues

The Local Advisory Board is responsible for:

- Reviewing the policy after issues are identified

Definitions

Wistaston Church Lane Academy defines a 'drug' as any substance which, when ingested, alters perception and the way



the body works. This definition includes but is not limited to:

- All illegal substances
- Alcohol
- Tobacco and cigarettes
- Solvents
- Medicines
- Legal highs

Staff Training

- At Wistaston Church Lane Academy we recognize that early intervention can prevent drug misuse. As such, teachers will receive training in identifying pupils who may be at risk.
- Teachers and support staff will receive drug and alcohol training as part of the annual safeguarding training and professional development.

Drug and Alcohol Education

- Pupils in Years Five and Six will receive guidance on drugs and alcohol as part of the Health curriculum delivered through the PSHE Association scheme of learning. Lessons will be delivered as appropriate to the age and understanding of the children. Where appropriate, visitors and external speakers will join us to lead classes on drug and alcohol misuse.
- Children will be able to practice the skills necessary to deal with a drug offer situation.
- Our aim is to promote and develop positive attitudes and behaviour towards good health and enable children to be able to make good, healthy informed choices.
- Children will be taught about the health risks caused by smoking in Science lessons.
- We will always do our best to be sensitive to personal issues we are aware of in children's home life and experience.
- Parents do not have the right to withdraw children from these lessons.

Smoking

- In accordance with Part One of the Health Act 2006, Wistaston Church Lane Academy is a smoke-free environment. Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the school grounds, including all buildings, out buildings, playgrounds, playing fields, sheltered areas and car parks.
- Parents, visitors and staff must not smoke on school grounds.
- Pupils are not permitted to bring smoking or nicotine products onto the premises. This includes, but is not limited to, cigarettes, e-cigs, lighters, matches and pipes.
- We would prefer it if staff members did not smoke outside the school grounds where they could be seen by children, whilst children are in school.

Legal drugs and prescribed medicines

- We understand that some pupils may require medications that have been prescribed by a doctor or other health professional and which may be deemed necessary by parents. Please refer to our Medication Policy for further information.

Solvents

- Pupils are not permitted to bring solvent-based products onto the premises. This includes, for example, aerosol deodorants, compressed air and hairspray.
- The school will ensure that potentially hazardous solvents are stored safely and pupils will be supervised if they are required to come into contact with them.

Persons found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol

- All drug or alcohol related incidents will be carefully considered before deciding on the response. The needs of pupils will always come first, whilst taking into account the school as a whole.



- Pupils found to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs whilst on school premises or during a school visit will be looked after and will be handled under the school's behaviour policies and Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.
- Staff members found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol whilst on school premises will be disciplined in line with their contract of employment.
- Visitors to the school found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol on school grounds will be escorted from the premises. The Principal has the authority to ban persistent offenders from the school.

Medical emergencies

- In drug-related medical emergencies, trained first aiders will be summoned.
- A teacher will remain with the casualty until the trained first aider arrives.
- Other pupils/people will be removed from the immediate area, as soon as is reasonably practicable.
- Following assessment by the first aider, a decision will be made to ascertain whether an ambulance will be called.
- If the incident relates to a pupil, the pupil's parents will always be phoned and informed about the incident. If the pupil is felt to be at risk, the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy will come into effect and social services will be contacted.
- All accidents and incidents, including near misses or dangerous occurrences, will be reported as soon as possible using the school's Health and Safety Policy.

Threatening behaviour

- Aggressive and threatening behaviour by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be taken very seriously.
- Where aggressive and/or threatening behaviour is displayed by someone believed to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol, the Police will be contacted without hesitation.
- Please read our Managing Adults' Aggressive Behaviour Policy.

Searching pupils

- Staff members may use common law to search pupils with their consent for any item.
- Staff members may ask pupils to turn out their pockets or may search a pupil's bag or locker.
- Teachers are authorized to search for any prohibited item without the consent of the pupil if they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil is in possession of a prohibited item. Items can also be confiscated if there are reasonable grounds for suspecting something is a prohibited item, e.g. a legal high.
- Staff members may require a pupil to remove outer clothing, including hats, scarves, boots, coats and scarves.
- Pupils' possessions will only be searched in the presence of the pupil and another member of staff unless there is a risk that serious harm will be caused to a person if the search is not done immediately, and where it is not practicable to summon another member of staff.

Controlled substances

Wistaston Church Lane Academy has a zero tolerance policy on illegal drugs.

- Following the identification and confiscation of a controlled substance, a staff member will seal the sample in a plastic bag and include details of the date and time of the confiscation and the name of any witnesses present.
- The staff member will secure the sample in a secure location.
- The incident will be reported immediately to the policy who will collect the sample and then deal with it in line with agreed protocols.
- The school will identify any pupils involved.
- A full incident report will be completed and submitted to the Principal.
- Any further measures will be undertaken in line with the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.
- Where controlled substances or alcohol are found on school trips away from school, parents of the pupil, as well as local police, will be notified.

Discipline



- Pupils involved in drug and/or alcohol situations on school premises will be disciplined as per the school's behaviour policy and, where appropriate, the police will be informed.
- Staff members involved in drug and/or alcohol situations on school premises will be disciplined as per their contract of employment and, where appropriate, the police will be informed.
- Parents and visitors involved in drug and/or alcohol situations on school premises will be banned from entering school premises indefinitely and, where appropriate, the police will be informed.