

Drug and substance abuse

Substance abuse / illegal drugs means any unlawful, intoxicating or stupefying substances, these include tobacco, alcohol, prescription drugs, and other psychoactive compound.

Substance abuse is prohibited by law and severe action will be taken against perpetrators.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The aim of this policy is to encourage all students to abstain from using any drugs (other than those which are medically prescribed), including alcohol and tobacco.

POSITION

The school does not tolerate:

- the use or possession of any illegal or prohibited substance;
- the possession of drug-related equipment such as cigarette papers, pipes, matches, lighters, bottle ends, foils or other;
- performance enhancing drugs;
- the inappropriate use of solvents, inhalants, aerosols and similar agents;
- the consumption of alcohol and the smoking of tobacco.

If any student is involved in dealing or selling any of the above mentioned substances, disciplinary action will be taken.

The school will respond to substance abuse with serious punishments, with a humanitarian view. Our approach will be one of prevention education. The school undertakes to educate (through guidance lessons, life skills) to inform (using outside speakers, exhibitions) and to guide and support (counselling, peer-counselling).

PROCEDURE

Anybody found in possession of or using any of these substances either on school property, or when in school uniform, or when under the supervision of the school, or attending school-related functions including sports outings, tours and social events, will be subject to the following procedure:

- The student will be required to have a drug test administered.
- If a student tests positive for a substance use, the student will first be interviewed by school management or the school counsellor to determine the nature and extent of the student's involvement with drugs (casual experimentation / habitual use / dependence / dealing, etc.) and determine the appropriate response.
- The student's parents will be informed of the alleged involvement and will be required to attend a meeting at the school with the Principal, and the School Counsellor.

On the basis of the meeting, the school will take the necessary action:

- Inform the parents of a pending disciplinary hearing.
- Disciplinary action against the student may follow if, in the opinion of the hearing, this is warranted by the nature of the student's involvement with drugs. The results of such disciplinary action may include the provision of support, including counselling, to a range of punishments which may include recommendation for expulsion.

PLEASE NOTE!

- Drug testing and searches will be done when substance abuse or the possession of illegal substances is suspected.
- Dealing in drugs or involving others in their use will normally result in a recommendation that the pupil be expelled from the school.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

The school needs to be informed if any learner needs to bring prescription drugs to school. Students are not allowed to bring more than one day's dose to school.

ADDICTION, TREATMENT AND HELP

The school understands that addiction is a medical problem.

Students who experience problems with substance abuse or related matters, and need help, will be treated in confidence and will not be discriminated against in any way.

The drug policy is for the benefit of all parties concerned. The aim of the policy is to assist, educate and guide students, and to help those who want to be helped or who need help. The school through its CFSI Centre with the help of School Counselor shall assist in the rehabilitation efforts of the students.