



Drug and Substance Abuse Policy

1. We are all aware of the growing problems in society regarding the availability of and use and misuse of drugs, specifically amongst young people. We intend to keep Light Hall School a drug & substance free environment to make the safety and welfare of all the students in the school our priority.

2. **Definition of a drug**

A drug is a substance that affects the way in which the body functions physically, emotionally or mentally. This definition includes illegal substances and also legal substances such as: tobacco & alcohol, volatile substances, over the counter and prescription medicines.

3. **Rationale**

3.1 Drugs referred to in this policy include alcohol, illegal drugs (e.g. cannabis) prescribed medicines, tobacco & volatile substances

3.2 Drug related incidents include the use on or outside school premises, possession, supplying or selling of drugs, and intoxication

3.3 The school curriculum will support an open and active discussion of drug issues

3.4 The school condemns the use and misuse of illegal drugs. Students who disregard this school rule will be severely dealt with

3.5 The policy will be constructed following consultation with governors, staff and relevant outside agencies

3.6 The school provides a planned drugs education curriculum as part of Personal Social Health Education and Citizenship (PSHEC), Science and Life and Morality, which reflects knowledge and understanding, attitudes, and personal and social skills.

3.7 Drugs education will:

- Enable students to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, exploring their and other people's attitudes, and developing and practising skills.
- Promote positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles.
- Provide accurate information about substances.
- Increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse.
- Encourage an understanding for those experiencing, or likely to experience, substance use.
- Widen understanding about related health and social issues, e.g. crime, HIV and AIDS.
- Seek to inform students of the risks that users and potential users face.
- Enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support.
- Enable all appropriate members of the school community to have access to training. The school will aim to provide any relevant information for parents and governors through support and liaison with the appropriate support agencies.

VERSION 1	TO BE APPROVED BY FULL GOVERNING BODY ON: May 21	POLICY RENEWAL REQUIRED: BI-ANNUALLY	REVIEW DATE May 23	SIGNED: CHAIR OF GOVERNORS
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4. Procedures

A drug incident may be any of the following:

- Finding drugs, or related paraphernalia, on the school premises
- Possession of drugs by an individual on the school premises
- Use of drugs by an individual on school premises
- Supply of drugs on school premises
- Individuals disclosing information about their drug use
- Rumours of parents, staff or students using drugs
- Reports of parents, staff or students using drugs

- 4.1 The Senior Assistant Headteacher – Personal Development, oversees the behaviour aspect of this policy, the teacher in charge of PSHEC co-ordinates the drug education aspect.
- 4.2 The majority of drugs education will be delivered within PSHE, Science, Life and Morality
- 4.3 Legal and illegal drugs, alcohol and smoking will also be covered within the science national curriculum.
- 4.4 English, drama and Life and Morality. will also cover aspects concerning drugs
- 4.5 The school will work closely with outside agencies to help deliver and support the drugs education programme (e.g. LA advisors)
- 4.6 Procedures for dealing with suspected illegal drugs related incidents will follow the recommendations of the West Midlands Police. Any such incident must be referred to the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher. In such cases the police, parents and Chair of Governors may be informed.
- 4.7 The school will deal with drug-related issues with objectivity. Support and counselling will be provided where possible.
- 4.8 Students caught dealing illegal drugs in school or who, following an investigation are deemed to be doing so, on the balance of probabilities will be recommended for permanent exclusion
- 4.9 Staff must not promise confidentiality to pupils
- 4.10 A record will be kept of all substance related incidents
- 4.11 Incidents of students smoking will be referred to the Deputy Headteacher (and the relevant Progress development leader PDL). Students will then be spoken to, receive a detention with the PDL and parents will be informed)
- 4.12 Staff must not attempt to dispose of illegal drugs or drug equipment without referral to the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher and at all times must follow Health & Safety regulations.
- 4.13 Staff training and development will occur to support this policy.

5. Monitoring

- 5.1 PSHEC lead will annually audit the coverage of drug-related matters across the curriculum to ensure that coverage is appropriate and co-ordinated.
- 5.2 The schools programme of self-evaluation will monitor the delivery of this programme
- 5.3 The Senior Assistant Headteacher – Personal Development will monitor the records of drug related incidents.

6. Review

- 6.1 Annually SLT and the governors