

Substance Use Policy

1. Policy

1.0 Substance Use

- The school does not accept or tolerate the possession, use or intent to supply of banned or prohibited substances - illicit drugs, alcohol and tobacco.
- Not prohibited in the school building, grounds including the Bus Bay, on school trips, outings or during any school related activity.
- The school reserves the right to determine that any such substance found at the school qualifies as a banned or prohibited substance

1.1 Medication

- Properly prescribed medical drugs may be taken on school on receipt of written notification from Parents/Gaurdians
- The school must be informed if a student has a medical condition and a special record of students with medical issues will be held in the school.
- Only a supply of the medication sufficient for the day and for the student's individual use should be brought into school.
- Chemicals in school laboratories will be under lock and key. Students will handle and use these substances only under teacher supervision.
- This policy applies to all students and other users of the school premises (including parents, staff, contract workers, visitors, and those attending evening classes)#

1.2. Smoking

- Is prohibited on the school premises/grounds - The reporting teacher will record the incident in the Student Journal and file. The action taken and the sanction imposed should be recorded
- All substance use related incidents will be reported to Senior Management*

1.3 Alcohol or Illicit Drug Incidents –

- A written report of the incident, kept by the Principal in a separate file for substance related incidents. The student is informed of same. Concerns or incidents around substance use are kept in a Concerns File but no discipline action is taken on foot of same, until proven, at which time a report is put on file ***The incident is not recorded***

in the student's normal file. However reference should be made in the normal file pointing to further information available from the Principal. The Student is informed of same.

2. Procedures & Sanctions

- Confidentiality cannot be guaranteed to students regarding information relating to incidents in breach of this policy.
- Parents will be notified at the earliest opportunity if their son or daughter is involved in a substance use related incident.
- Consulting with/Involving Gardaí - incidents involving the supply* of substances for illicit use it is the policy of this school to consult Gardaí.
- **Sharing drugs may be seen as supply. It is not necessary for money to change hands*
- Sanctions including suspension or exclusion may be imposed depending on the seriousness of the incident
- If suspected substance use leads to indiscipline resulting in suspension, parents may be required to have a student drug tested before return to school.
- This school retains the right to search any part of school property if there is reasonable cause to believe a substance in breach of this policy may be contained therein. If they refuse the school bag may be confiscated or a section of lockers put out of bounds and access denied until the Gardaí are consulted about conducting a search
- The use of aerosols is also discouraged on the school premises.