

Stanwell School Substance Misuse policy

The school has a whole-school approach to drugs as part of its commitment to being a healthy school. The policy aims to enable pupils to make informed choices by increasing their knowledge and providing opportunities for them to explore their own and others' attitudes.

To protect the safety and well-being of all pupils and staff, drugs must not be possessed or bought, sold, or otherwise obtained on school premises or during the school day, including when pupils are on school visits. The policy and procedures apply to all adults working at and for the school.

Links to other policies

This policy relates to the behaviour policy, the curriculum policy, the health and safety policy and the personal and social education policy.

Roles and responsibilities of headteacher, other staff, governors
The headteacher will ensure that:

- a healthy schools co-ordinator is appointed to have general responsibility for handling the daily implementation of this policy
- a planned drug education programme is provided as part of the Pastoral programme and wider curriculum that reflects knowledge and understanding, attitudes and personal and social skills.
- teachers are provided with training and guidance so that they are confident and skilled to teach drug education and to respond to drug-related incidents
- pupils are aware of the rules on drugs and of the consequences of breaking them
- clear procedures are in place for responding to drug-related incidents
- sanctions for incidents are consistent with the school's discipline policy
- the school actively co-operates with other agencies such as community police, social services, the LA and health and drug agencies to deliver its commitment to drugs education.

All staff members are expected to:

- report incidents of drug misuse to the headteacher
- implement the drug education programme and attend associated training to increase their understanding of the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse

- enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, exploring their own and other people's attitudes and developing and practising personal skills to resist peer group pressure, and to help friends and relatives involved in drug misuse
- promote positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles
- provide accurate information about substances
- widen their own and the pupils' understanding of related health and social issues, e.g. crime, HIV and AIDS
- enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support.

Pupils will be expected to:

- follow the school rules
- alert the staff to any drug-related incidents on or around the school site.

Parents will be encouraged to:

- endorse the school's approach to drugs education

The governing body will ensure that its members, especially the Pupil Discipline Committee, are well-informed about the drug education programme, the potential for drug abuse and how to respond to drug-related incidents.

Pupils

Drugs and alcohol affect behaviour. The fact that drugs or alcohol have caused a student to behave inappropriately will not be seen as a mitigating factor – the behaviour will be dealt with using the normal range of school sanctions.

It would be normal practice to contact the police according to the agreed protocol if a search is required or if there is a concern about dealing in illegal drugs. In cases of possession, the decision to contact police is discretionary.

In line with the school's discipline policy and behaviour code, illegal activities such as the possession, consumption or supply of drugs in school or on the way to and from school will result in permanent exclusion from school.

It is not the role of the school to provide medical care to those under the influence of drink or drugs. If a child is at risk because of impaired mental state, parents should be contacted and required to collect and care for their child.

Failing that, any emergency contact could be asked to assist. Failing that, social services and police can be called for advice.

A child must not be released to walk, cycle or catch the bus home if there is concern about mental impairment resulting from drink or drugs. If necessary, reasonable force may be used to restrain the child.

Informing parents

Parents should be informed of any drug related incident unless there are child protection concerns:

If it would interfere with a school investigation

If it would interfere with a police investigation

If it could result in greater harm to the child for another reason.

Parents would normally be contacted directly by telephone in the event of suspected or proven drug usage.

Staff

Substance misuse outside school hours could adversely affect job performance and so trigger competency procedures. If the effects of misuse are such that student or staff safety is at risk, the member of staff can be suspended pending disciplinary action. This may include dismissal.

Supply of illegal drugs or alcohol to school students in school or on school visits is potentially gross professional misconduct and will be reported to the General Teaching Council for Wales.

Adults (not staff)

The school is not able to release pupils into the care of other adults where there is a possibility of harm to that pupil. Where there is evidence that parents or carers arriving at school to collect children are under the influence of drugs or alcohol, either social services or the police will be contacted in line with the school's child protection policy.

Where any member of the school community, staff, parent or visitor is or appears to be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs on the school premises without the prior agreement of the head teacher, they will be asked to leave immediately and action taken to ensure their safety, with supervision if necessary. Where illegal substances are involved, the police will be informed.

Smoking

Smoking of cigarettes and e-cigarettes on the school site is strictly prohibited for pupils, staff and visitors to the school site. For pupils this includes the journey to and from school. For pupils and staff, this includes on school trips and any activity after school hours eg concerts.

Media

It is important that staff do not report incidents and/or issues concerning drug misuse to the local press and media generally. The Head teacher, in consultation with Governors, will deal personally with all media matters.

Reviewed by: Date:	SO May 2019
Approved by Governing Body:	June 2019