



CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

A C H I E V E M E N T F O R A L L

DRUG POLICY

Rationale

It is the aim of Cannock Chase High School to help all students to be able to know of the dangers of drug usage and live safe and healthy lives. As a school we recognise that some drugs have beneficial effects, but also that every drug has potential to harm. For this reason, all drugs need appropriate and responsible care and management. In order to make informed choices, staff and students need to understand the nature of drugs, their social and legal status and their uses and effects.

Aims

The aims of this Policy are to:

- Support the school's behaviour policy ensuring drugs are not bought into school, sold or used in school;
- Support all members of the school community by providing clear guidelines and procedures on drug related issues to ensure clarity and consistency;
- Ensure an appropriate whole school approach to drugs education exists in the context of the school's taught curriculum.

Definition of Drugs

Cannock Chase High School defines a drug as a substance which, when taken into the body (in a variety of ways), changes the way we feel, the way we perceive things, and the way our body works. This definition includes illegal substances and also legal substances such as alcohol, tobacco, solvents and medicines.

Medicines

The school has a Policy and procedures for the administration of medicines that must be followed. *Please refer to the Medicines Policy for greater information.*

Alcohol

Students are not allowed to bring or consume alcohol on school premises. Should a student be caught with alcohol or be under the influence of alcohol, parents will be asked to collect them immediately and a fixed term exclusion issued, the duration of which is to be decided by the Headteacher or Assistant Headteacher, Pastoral.

Tobacco (To include E Cigarettes and items such as Shisha Pens)

The school is a no smoking site for everybody, both adults and students. Students are not permitted to bring in tobacco products or smoking materials including matches and lighters.

The school reserves the right to search a child at any time if they believe the individual is in possession of any smoking related items.

Where searches of this nature occur there will be at least two members of staff, including one member of staff of the same sex of the individual concerned. If tobacco items are found they will be confiscated and parents contacted. The school reserves the right to issue a fixed term exclusion if deemed appropriate based upon the nature of the items found.

Cannock Chase High School has clear procedures for any student caught smoking on school premises or whilst in school uniform to and from school.

On the first occasion a one hour after school detention will be issued, on the second occasion three one hour detentions will be given, on the third occasion the student will receive a fixed term isolation in another school. Should any student be caught on a fourth occasion they will receive a one day fixed term exclusion and a meeting with the Assistant Headteacher, Pastoral will then take place.

The school will look at a variety of methods to support students in wanting to give up their habit of smoking. These can and will include referrals to the School Nurse and the Quit Smoking Programme.

Solvents

The school will ensure that potentially hazardous substances are stored safely, and students will be supervised if it is necessary that they need to come into contact with them in the course of their studies, eg for specific science experiments.

Students are not permitted to be in possession or use solvent based products.

Illegal Drugs

No illegal drugs are permitted to be bought on to, used or sold on school premises.

A drug related incident may include any of the following:

- A student who is suspected of being under the influence of a drug/s;
- Finding drugs, or related paraphernalia on school premises;
- Possession of drugs by an individual on school premises;
- Use of drug/s by an individual/s on school premises;
- Supply of drugs on school premises;
- Individuals disclosing information about their drug use;
- Rumours of drug possession, supply or drug use;
- Reports of drug possession or drug usage.

Please note that in our response to drug issues we take careful account of national guidance, in particular *DFE and ACPO Drug advice for Schools (September 2012)*.

Drug Procedures at Cannock Chase High School

The Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher, Pastoral are designated members of staff responsible for co-ordinating the management of drug related incidents. Where deemed

appropriate the Director of Student Services will offer support and liaising with outside agencies that support students in drugs misuse eg T3.

The school reserves the right to search a child at any time if they believe the individual is in possession of any drug related items or under the influence of illegal drugs whilst on school premises. Where searches of this nature occur there will be at least two members of staff, including one member of staff of the same sex of the individual concerned. In the vast majority of cases a senior member of staff along with a member of the pastoral team will carry out a search on a student.

Should a student or adult be caught in possession of illegal drugs or be under the influence of illegal drugs, the situation will be reported to the Headteacher or Assistant Headteacher, Pastoral immediately. The Headteacher or Assistant Headteacher will make the appropriate decision if they believe a student has taken a harmful illegal substance or is at immediate risk of harm. This may result in medical help being sought. The priority will be initially the student's safety. Parents/Guardians will be informed as soon as possible.

If a student is found to be in possession of an illegal drug/s on school premises the drug/s will be confiscated. The school will follow national guidelines and contact the Police about this matter. The drug/s will be locked in the school safe until they are handed over to the Police. The school will obtain a crime reference for each individual incident and by law will have to disclose the name and personal details of the student/s concerned to the Police.

Evidence of dealing drugs within school will result in permanent exclusion.

The school reserves the right to respond appropriately to each individual case by selecting from a range of sanctions, that which is deemed most appropriate. They can include:

- Permanent Exclusion;
- Managed Move to another school;
- Fixed Term Exclusions;
- Referral to external agencies dealing specifically with substance misuse.

Under these circumstances the final decision on individual cases will be made by the Headteacher who will look at the needs of each individual student, combined with the needs of the school.

Drugs or Alcohol on School Visits and Trips

Where drugs, drug related paraphernalia or alcohol are discovered on a school trip, procedures will generally follow those for drug/alcohol found on school premises.

The trip leader will use their own professional judgement and discuss this with the Educational Visits Co-ordinator (EVC)/Headteacher. The school reserve the right to request that a parent/guardian collects a student immediately under circumstances of this nature.

Staff Training and PSHE

We recognise the need for staff to receive appropriate training to support their work in delivering appropriate drugs and alcohol advice and guidance. PSHE schemes of work will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure materials and guidance is as up to date as possible. The Assistant Headteacher, Pastoral will organise training related to identified needs of staff as required.

Links to Other Policies

Please see the schools Behaviour Policy, SMSC/PSHE Policy, Drugs Guidance for Schools (DFE).

Date for Review: _____