



Cheadle Hulme School

ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND OTHER SUBSTANCE POLICY

Please also refer to Equality & Diversity Policy.docx

**Please follow this link for the relevant procedure on the School's intranet:
Procedures for Disciplinary Incidents Involving Pupils**

The School aims to discourage pupils' inappropriate use of alcohol, controlled drugs and other substances that may damage their health and wellbeing. To achieve this, the School will use a range of strategies including education through the curriculum and co-curriculum, the system of pastoral care, measures to detect users and appropriate sanctions.

However the School recognises that pupils may become involved with the inappropriate use of substances; when this happens the School will take appropriate steps bearing in mind the wider social impact the use of such substances can have. Such steps will have regard to any relevant legislation and may include referral of matters to the police. Where the School becomes aware that a pupil has been formally cautioned by the police in relation to the use of an illegal substance (or similar offence), the School reserves the right to exclude that individual.

This policy also applies to the paraphernalia of drugs or substances intended to resemble drugs, and other substances held or supplied. The School will also have discretion as to how it deals with pupils who are using 'legal' substances inappropriately.

Education

The curriculum will include a range of opportunities to educate pupils as to the potential risks to their health; the possible impact on their wider personal and professional lives; and the wider social implications of using and abusing different substances. Pupils will be encouraged to develop strategies to resist the use of, and/or pressure to use, such substances. The School will also provide information to staff and where appropriate to parents, to make them aware of relevant issues relating to the use of illegal and other substances in young people.

The School will rely on teaching and other staff employed by the School as well as external agencies and individuals to help develop pupils' understanding of these issues.

Pastoral Care

Pupils will be encouraged to discuss with staff or other agencies any issues or concerns they have relating to their own health and use or abuse of any substance.

Matters disclosed by a pupil or his/her parents during counselling or other private discussions with members of staff will remain confidential, unless there is believed to be an impact or risk of an impact on others within the School community. Any member of staff who has any concerns about a pupil in relation to such matters will be expected to share those concerns with senior pastoral staff, including designated safeguarding officers.

Detection

The School will investigate every credible complaint or report of involvement with drugs and

substances. The School reserves the right to undertake drug testing as appropriate. Searches of School premises including lockers may be undertaken if there is information to suggest that substances are being stored.

Sanctions

The School regards willful breaches of the School rules in relation to the supply, possession and misuse of substances as serious misconduct and its Serious Disciplinary Procedure will guide its response. In such instances, the School is not obliged to offer a supportive regime, but in all circumstances, the School will try to do so. However the School reserves the right to take such action as it deems appropriate to safeguard the interests of other pupils and the wider School community.

The School:

- is very likely to suspend any pupil suspected of involvement with drugs or other substances pending further investigations
- will almost certainly ask parents to withdraw from School anyone supplying or using drugs or other substances within the School's jurisdiction even if he/she is about to sit public examinations. The same approach will be taken with anyone who is involved with assisting the acquisition or use of drugs by others.
- will, depending on the circumstances, issue at ***least a final warning*** to any pupil possessing illegal substances.

SLT Member responsible:

Deputy Head Pupil Progress & Welfare

Approved by Governors' Board
or Delegated body:

June 2017

Proposed review date:

June 2020

Relevant Procedure:

Procedures for Disciplinary Incidents Involving Pupils