

Substance Misuse Policy



Approved by: FGB

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Status and Review Cycle 3 yearly

Person(s) responsible DHU

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Next review due by: 1st July 2023

As part of our duty to promote students' wellbeing Kings International College has a clear role to play in preventing drug misuse. This role is carried out through an education programme, behaviour management procedures and through work with partner organisations, including the police.

Drug use is an increasing problem in the teenage population and is affecting younger and younger children in the UK. Evidence from research suggests that the risk of pupils coming to school under the influence of drugs or bringing drugs into school has increased dramatically over the last 10 years. Drugs can not only affect the child that is taking them but may have a knock-on effect on other pupils by disruptive behaviour affecting the learning and happiness of other students and increasing peer pressure to take drugs.

Schools have a duty to the pupils in their care not only to ensure a safe school environment, and a good learning environment but also to look out for the welfare of their pupils and to spot issues like drug abuse. Pupils dealing drugs and selling them to other pupils is also an increased risk in schools and teachers need to be vigilant.

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Policy context

As part of their statutory duty to promote students' wellbeing, schools have a clear role to play in preventing drug misuse. The Drugs Education Policy has been developed with reference to Department for Education advice and guidance: DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools (DfE-00001-2012) which is non-statutory and was produced to help answer some of the most common questions raised by schools.

The drugs education of students takes into account the statutory requirements within the National Curriculum Science Order, the non-statutory framework for PSHEE at Key Stages 3 and 4 and the statutory Citizenship Programme of Study at Key Stages 3 and 4.

Where the policy refers to drugs, this includes alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, medicines, novel psychoactive substances ('legal highs') and volatile substances.

The term 'drug misuse' is used to refer to drug taking through which harm may occur, whether by intoxication, breach of College rules or the law, or the possibility of immediate injury and/or future health problems.

The College is clear in that no illegal or other unauthorised drugs are acceptable within any part of the College and on any other area of College activity, for example trips, fixtures etc.

Related Policies

- Behaviour Policy
- Supporting Students with Medical Needs Policy
- Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy

Aims

This policy will:

1. Ensure that all our students receive a comprehensive and effective drug programme that will support them in making healthy choices throughout their lives
2. Outline strategies regarding the management of drug incidents at Kings International College and during offsite visits
3. Support the personal, social and health needs of all pupils with regard to drugs
4. Make explicit the role of all stakeholders in upholding the policy

1. Drug education in the curriculum

Drug education aims to give students the facts and the knowledge to make informed and responsible choices, now and later in life, and to emphasise the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

We will:

- provide accurate information about drugs and the law relating to them
- increase students' understanding of the implications and possible consequences of the use and misuse of drugs
- provide opportunities to examine attitudes and values towards drug use
- enable students to identify sources of appropriate personal support

Drug education is provided within the wellbeing and citizenship programmes of study at Key Stage 3 and 4. The appendix to this policy gives detail on the issues taught at each stage.

Programmes of study are revised regularly, to ensure any recent changes in drug use and laws are reflected appropriately. An audit of student awareness and needs is held annually through a student safety survey.

2. Management of drugs at Kings International College and on offsite visits

The possession, use or supply of illegal and other unauthorised drugs within the College boundaries* is forbidden.

*College boundaries refers to the College campus and any College off-site activity

Smoking: Kings International College is a smoke-free site and breaches of this are dealt with through the Behaviour Policy. Students and staff are not permitted to smoke during offsite activities. This includes e-cigarettes.

The Pastoral Team will provide information, support and advice to students who wish to quit smoking.

Alcohol: It is forbidden for students to bring alcohol onto College premises and/or to consume alcohol at any time whilst they are under the care of the College, including trips. Breaches of this are dealt with through the Behaviour Policy.

Medicines: Following a parent/carer request, the College will store prescribed medicines and administer them as necessary to the appropriate students. All such medicines will be kept under supervised conditions as stated in the Supporting Students with Medical Conditions policy.

2.1 Searching and confiscation: When a person is suspected of concealing illegal or other unauthorised drugs

1. Every effort will be made to persuade the person to voluntarily hand over any drugs or substance, in the presence of a second adult witness
2. If the student refuses to hand over suspected drugs, consent will be sought from parent/carer to search the student's belongings and outer clothing* in the presence of a second adult witness (**outer clothing refers to all clothing with the exception of underwear*)
3. Where the individual refuses **and the drug is believed to be illegal**, the police will be called
4. Where searches are necessary they must be authorised by the SLT and will be conducted in such a way as to minimise potential embarrassment or distress
5. Staff may search College property, for example, students' lockers if they believe drugs to be stored there. Prior consent will be sought but individuals will be made aware that if consent is refused the College may proceed with a search.
6. After any search involving students, parents/carers will be contacted regardless of whether the result of the search is positive or negative

The Power to Search:

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 states that the Headteacher, and staff authorised by them, have a statutory power to search students or their possessions, without consent, where they suspect the student has certain prohibited items. The items include knives, weapons, alcohol, drugs and stolen items. In these cases another adult is present during any search. College staff can also search students, with their consent, for any item that is banned by the College. In such circumstances the teacher requests that students turn out their pockets, bag or locker and hand over any item that contravenes College policy. Failure to adhere to these requests will result in severe sanctions.

2.2 Testing:

In conjunction with other schools within the Surrey Heath Area we use a saliva test for any student we suspect is under the influence of controlled substances. This procedure is carried out by trained staff with senior staff support in line with guidance laid out in the College's Drugs Policy. These saliva tests can detect the six most commonly used substances within five minutes and will detect any use over a period of several hours prior to the test. Parents are contacted prior to such testing.

Testing can also be via the use of environment swabs, which will be used to ascertain if drugs are detectable within a location or belongings. If the testing swab is used on clothing or belongings of a student,

as with saliva testing, parents will be contacted before this goes ahead. Kings International College may test areas of school, such as bathrooms or classroom tables without permission of parents.

When a person is suspected to be under the influence of illegal or other unauthorised drugs or substances:

1. Every effort will be made to persuade or encourage the individual to admit to being under the influence of any drugs or substance, in the presence of a second adult witness
2. If the individual does not admit, consent will be sought from parent/carer to test the individual in the presence of a second adult witness (**by administering an approved saliva test*)
3. Where the individual/parent refuses to consent the College will deem this an admission of being under the influence of a drug or other inappropriate substance.
4. When permission is gained the saliva test is conducted in the presence of two adults.
5. When a test that is carried out indicates the individual is under the influence of drugs they will be dealt with in conjunction with relevant policies and protocols.
6. Any administered test will be placed in an envelope which will be signed by the two witnesses and kept in a secure location within the college.

Responding to drug incidents

Drug incidents include suspicions, observations, disclosures or discoveries of situations involving illegal and other unauthorised drugs and are likely to fit into the following categories:

- a. drugs or associated paraphernalia are found on College premises
- b. a student is found in possession of drugs or associated paraphernalia
- c. a student is found to be supplying drugs on College premises
- d. a student, parent/carer or staff member is thought to be under the influence of drugs
- e. a student discloses that they or a family member/friend are misusing drugs.

For any drug incident, the utmost priority is placed on safety, meeting any medical emergencies with first aid and summoning appropriate help.

The response/outcome will balance the needs of the individual with those of the wider community and will be determined after a full and careful investigation. Sanctions are laid out in the Management of Behaviour Policy.

3. Students at risk

The College will work with outside agencies, including the Local Authority (LA), various community services and the police, as appropriate; to support any students considered to be at risk of drug misuse. This additional provision will support the drug education programme.

4. Roles and responsibilities

- The Assistant Headteacher (behavior and welfare) has responsibility for the management of drug incidents
- All incidents, including suspicions, must be relayed to a member of Senior Leadership Team immediately
- Senior Leadership will determine whether police involvement is appropriate
- Staff involved in the immediate incident must supervise all students potentially involved and, where possible, sit each student with an adult in a separate area
- Total confidentiality must not be promised but students should be informed that all information will be handled sensitively and will only be passed on when unavoidable
- In exceptional circumstances, if a student's safety is under threat, the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher will invoke a local child protection procedure

Appendix 1.

Drug incident - immediate response

- Remove the student(s) from general circulation
- Ensure at least two adults are present during all stages of the response
- Alert the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher
- Ask student(s) to voluntarily hand over drugs/paraphernalia
- Seek parental consent to search person/property and/or drug test the student (even if student has already agreed in the case of testing)
- ***On approval of the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher***, search students' external clothes and bag with a second adult present
- ***On approval of the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher*** administer a saliva drug test when deemed necessary (only after gaining permission from parent/guardian)
- Refer to Management of Behaviour Policy for sanction
- Inform parents/carers of outcome

Appendix 2.

Current Programme of study relating to drug awareness education however this is under review following curriculum design so will be updated as Schemes of Learning are adapted:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
PD DAYS Citizenship day	PSHEE Substance abuse 3 lessons <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drugs• Alcohol• Smoking Gangs and knife crime 3 lessons <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knife crime• Role models• Gang life Differences between recreational and medicinal drugs		PD DAYS Medical Mavericks Responsible citizens / drugs awareness Smoking & risk of disease Alcohol and other carcinogens	Healthy Bodies / Healthy Minds