

# Salendine Nook High School (Academy)

## Drugs Policy (Non Statutory)

<b>Date policy updated:</b>	January 2020
<b>Produced by:</b>	Mr A Foster
<b>Approved by Governing Body:</b>	Personal Development, Behaviour & Welfare Committee 31.1.20
<b>Review date:</b>	January 2022

## Background and context

- 1.1 Salendine Nook High School is a larger than average 11-16 School serving the communities of Salendine Nook, Lindley, Marsh and Outlane. 16.4% percent of our students were eligible to free school meals on the January 2020 school census. The school is oversubscribed and has consistently exceeded local and national averages, in attendance and examination subjects at both key stages.
- 1.2 The policy links with the following school policies:
  - Behaviour
  - Medical Needs Policy
  - Safeguarding
  - Trips and visits policy
  - Personnel Procedures for staff

These policies demonstrate the school's commitment to the health, safety and well-being of our students
- 1.3 The policy is aimed at all young people in our care and all who work for and are within the school community (all staff, parents/carers/carers and governors).
- 1.4 Governors, staff and students were consulted in developing the Policy. In addition, it will be available on the school website.

## The school's definition of Drugs/Substances

- 2.1 The word 'drug' or 'substance' will be used to cover medicinal drugs, legal drugs (including alcohol, tobacco, legal highs and volatile substance misuse (solvents) and all illegal drugs).

## Responsibility for the policy/implementation

- 3.1 The Principal has overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation in the school. This responsibility includes liaison with the Governing Body, the parents/carers and other appropriate outside agencies.
- 3.2 Responsibilities:
  - Managing drug related incidents – The Principal
  - Co-ordination of the Drugs education programme – Head of Philosophy, Morals and Ethics (PME) Policy development and review - Senior Leadership Team
  - Monitoring and assessing the effectiveness of the policy – Senior Leadership Team and Heads of Year. All staff have a responsibility for following appropriate referral policies.
- 3.3 Relevant extracts from this policy may be published in:
  - the school prospectus
  - the staff handbook

## **Local and national guidance and support**

- 4.1 The policy reflects Kirklees School Effectiveness Service guidance on drugs and is framed in the context of National guidance:
- DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools (DfE, Sept 2012)
  - Searching, screening and confiscation (DfE, January 2018)
  - Frank <http://www.talktofrank.com>
- 4.2 Staff should be aware of the following sources of local support:
- Kirklees Learning Services <http://businesssolutions.kirklees.gov.uk>
  - The Base – CRI (Kirklees) 2 Spring Bank, New North Road, Huddersfield HD1 5NB
  - 01484 541 589

## **The school's stance towards drugs, health and the needs of students**

- 5.1 Salendine Nook High School has the health and welfare of individual students and the whole school community at the heart of its responsibilities.
- 5.2 The school recognises that we live in a society where drug use has become commonplace. Drugs are used, legally and illegally, in both a social context, for example tobacco and alcohol, and in a medical context as prescribed and non-prescription drugs.
- 5.3 The school will not tolerate any substance or object which may place the health or safety of any person at the school at risk.
- 5.4 The school acknowledges the important role of education ensuring that young people have all the necessary knowledge and skills to make informed and healthy choices regarding their drug use, both now and in the future.

## **The purpose of drug education within the school.**

- 6.1 Drug education enables pupils to develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, relating this to their own and others' actions
- 6.2 Drug education will:
- provide accurate information
  - build on knowledge and understanding
  - provide pupils with an awareness of the legal framework relating to drugs
  - explore attitudes and values towards drugs, drug use and drug users
  - develop understanding about rules and laws
  - develop interpersonal skills
  - develop self-awareness and self-esteem
  - explore risks and consequences

- be relevant to the needs of the pupils and the school community

## **The management of drug education**

- 7.1 Drug Education is delivered as part of the statutory National Curriculum Science Orders and the PSHCE curriculum. Further details are available on request.
- 7.2 In addition, the school 'Drop in' facility is available where students can discuss issues with professional NHS staff.
- 7.3 The NHS provides education and advice e.g. anti-smoking.

## **Training and support for staff**

- 8.1 The school is aware of the need for all those involved with substance issues to be adequately trained and supported. The school will endeavour to provide training for all staff appropriate to their role in school within the Continuous Professional Development (CPD) plans.
- 8.2 Staff should be aware of their responsibilities in implementing the policy (see 10.7-10.10)

## **Assessing, monitoring and evaluating drug education**

- 9.1 Drug education is monitored as part of the whole school practice on monitoring and teaching.

## **Management of drugs at school**

Please read the following in conjunction with the Medical Needs Policy.

- 10.1 The school policy on drugs is summarised in the school prospectus and staff and student handbooks.
- 10.2 During the school day students must not be in possession of, or use:
  - Cigarettes, cigarette lighters or matches
  - E-Cigarettes
  - Alcohol
  - Solvents (aerosols sprays should not be brought to school)
  - Any illegal substances
  - Any Psychoactive Substances (Previously known as "legal highs")
- 10.3 The school day is defined as normal lesson time, breaks, lunchtimes on or off the premises, the journey to and from school, school activities away from premises (e.g. school trips, sporting fixtures etc.) and extra-curricular activities on the premises.
- 10.4 The school will normally involve parents/carers in cases of substance misuse and will involve appropriate outside agencies in any incident relating to illegal substances. Students will be referred to CRI-Crime Reduction Initiative using the Kirklees School Drug Referral Scheme. This means that the student will have his/her substance/drug

issues assessed by an appropriate professional in drugs issues. The school will be informed when the young person has attended and other details in agreement with the young person. The decision to involve the police rests with the school and their involvement will depend upon the incident concerned.

- 10.5 The expectation is that a student would be excluded for a fixed term period for the following offences and would be referred for a CRI assessment:
- Possession of a substance/drug
  - Using a substance/drug
  - Being under the influence of a substance/drug
  - Buying or selling substances
  - Offering or seeking to procure substances/drugs

All such exclusions are passed to the Governing Body. Very serious offences may result in permanent exclusion.

- 10.6 Salendine Nook High School is a non-smoking site. Students caught smoking or using e-cigarettes are subject to disciplinary action and will have their cigarettes/e-cigarettes and/or lighters/matches taken off them.

## **Responsibilities of members of staff**

- 10.7 Any member of staff discovering a suspected illegal substance, should record the place, time, date and circumstances and immediately inform SLT. If at all possible a witness will countersign this. Staff should not attempt to test the substance/drug. Substances/drugs should be handed to the Principal/Senior Leader.
- 10.8 When a student is suspected to have been using substances/drugs the first priority is to establish whether medical help is required. Contact the school Welfare Officer in school. If in doubt contact the emergency services. Involve a senior colleague and make a record of the incident as soon as possible.
- 10.9 They should be asked to give the substance to the member of staff. Staff should not attempt to search a student without consent but may if necessary search a student's bag or locker with student consent. Another member of staff must be present. Staff should endeavour to have the student with them when this is done. (Refer to DfE document Searching, Screening and Confiscation January 2018) If a banned substance is found, the student should be referred to the Principal/Senior Leader. Substances should be handed to the Principal/Senior Leader. The substance will be sealed in a package with the date and time and placed in a secure location. The Police will be contacted to collect it.
- Where consent is refused, parents/carers should be contacted to persuade their child to give consent and if necessary the police should then be involved. Only the Principal can authorise searches without consent. The student will be kept in school (if medical attention is not needed see 10.8) if under the influence of substances/drugs until a parent or carer can collect them or an appropriate child protection officer.
- 10.10 The Principal/member of Senior Leadership Team (SLT) should inform the police if it is suspected that a student has broken the law.

## **Confidentiality – disclosure of drug use**

- 10.11 If a pupil approaches an individual for advice on a drug related matter they do so because they feel confident and comfortable with that person. The adult has a responsibility to explain to the pupil that ideally the matter should be discussed with their parents/carers and that confidentiality may not be possible.
- 10.12 It is normal practice for parents/carers to be informed at the earliest opportunity of any drug-related incident concerning their child. The student should be encouraged to talk with their parents/carers and it may be expedient to check that this has taken place.
- 10.13 It may well be that the student, having approached a teacher, may wish them to act as an intermediary. However, on rare occasions there may be legitimate grounds for not immediately informing parents/carers. In these cases, the teacher should ensure that the student knows where to obtain medical advice and encourage the student to discuss this with a responsible adult. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) in school should be informed.
- 10.14 The Principal must always consider whether there are any child protection implications in any drug-related incidents. In such cases the Principal or DSL will seek advice from appropriate agencies (e.g. Social Services).
- 10.15 Any discussion between a member of staff and a student about a drug related issue should be discussed in a confidential manner with a senior member of staff.
- 10.16 Any student may discuss any problem or issue with the School Welfare Officer in a confidential manner. Any matter regarding child protection issues will be dealt with immediately by informing the DSL and other professionals.

## **School Visits**

- 11.1 Staff arranging school visits should make the rules regarding alcohol, tobacco and other drug use (including prescribed medication and over the counter products) very clear to students and parents/carers. They need to be made aware that a breach of these rules could result in disciplinary action or withdrawal from the visit. Search and/or confiscation rules apply (see 10.9 where the group leader replaces SLT)

## **Media**

- 11.2 The Principal or designated Deputy will be responsible for any contact with the media. No other member of staff should speak to the media about drug related matters.