

Salendine Nook High School (Academy)

Drugs and Banned Substances Policy (Non-Statutory)

Date policy updated:	January 2022
Produced by:	Craig Fenton
Approved by SLT:	31.01.22
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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

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).

The school's definition of 'drugs/substances'

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

Responsibility for the policy/implementation

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.

Responsibilities:

- Managing drug related incidents – The Principal / AP B&A
- Co-ordination of the Drugs education programme – Head of PME
- PME Policy development and review – AP PD
- 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.

Relevant extracts from this policy may be published in:

- the School Prospectus
- the Staff Handbook

Local and national guidance and support

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>

Staff should be aware of the following sources of local support:

- Kirklees Learning Services <http://businesssolutions.kirklees.gov.uk>
- The Base, Kirklees in Recovery (Kirklees) The Base Kirklees, Brian Jackson House, New North Parade, Huddersfield, HD1 5JP, 01484 541589

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

Salendine Nook High School has the health and welfare of individual students and the whole school community at the heart of its responsibilities.

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, alcohol and vaping and in a medical context as prescribed and non-prescription drugs.

The school will not tolerate any substance or object which may place the health or safety of any person at the school at risk.

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

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.

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 inter-personal 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

Drug Education is delivered as part of the statutory National Curriculum Science Orders and the PME curriculum. Information can be found on the school website regarding the curriculum.

The NHS provides education and advice e.g. anti-smoking.

Training and support for staff

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.

Staff should be aware of their responsibilities in implementing the policy (see 7- 10).

Assessing, monitoring and evaluating drug education

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:

1. The school policy on drugs is summarised in the school prospectus and staff and student handbooks.

2. During the school day or whilst wearing the school uniform students must not be in possession of, or use:
 - Cigarettes, cigarette lighters or matches;
 - E-cigarettes (vapes);
 - Alcohol;
 - Solvents (aerosol sprays should not be brought to school);
 - Any illegal substances;
 - Any psychoactive substances (Previously known as “legal highs”);
 - Any apparatus used to administer illegal substances.
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.
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 The Base 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.
5. The expectation is that a student would be excluded for a fixed term period (suspension) for the following offences and would be referred for a Base Referral 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, particularly in relation to dealing illegal substances.

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 confiscated and face a suspension. Items will only be returned to parents/carers if they come into school to collect them within 7 days of the offence. After 7 days, the item/s will be destroyed.

Responsibilities of members of staff

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.
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.

9. They should be asked to give the substance to the member of staff. Where it is suspected that illegal substances are present, searching without consent is permitted. Another member of staff must be present. (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.

Only the Principal can authorise searches without consent. The student will be kept in school (if medical attention is not needed, see 8) if under the influence of substances/drugs, until a parent or carer can collect them or an appropriate Child Protection Officer.

10. The Principal/member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) should inform the police if it is suspected that a student has broken the law.

Confidentiality – disclosure of drug use

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.
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.
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.
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).
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.
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

Staff arranging school visits should make the rules regarding alcohol, tobacco, vaping 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 9 where the group leader replaces SLT).

Media

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.