

SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY



HAYDON SCHOOL

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**SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY  
2018**

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

## 1. SUBSTANCES COVERED BY THIS POLICY

This policy incorporates alcohol, cigarettes, volatile substances, certain permanent ink markers, all forms of medicines, pain killers whether prescribed or bought over the counter, and all other legal and illegal drugs. It also applies to glue, aerosol sprays, and other substances where they are used as intoxicants. Involvement in the abuse of any such substances constitutes “involvement in drug related activity”.

Any prescribed medicines to be taken in school need to be left in the Medical room except for inhalers and epi-pens which should be carried by the student.

## 2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Haydon School is committed to:

2.1.1. Minimising the number of students who experiment with or abuse drugs.

2.1.2 Minimising harm amongst those who, despite our best efforts, decide to experiment or abuse. In particular we are seeking the following outcomes:

That all students will:

- Have a greater understanding of the health risks associated with specific substances
- Have a greater understanding of the legal risks associated with specific substances
- Have a greater understanding of the disciplinary implications of possession or abuse on the school site
- Have a greater understanding of the social implications of widespread substance abuse
- Be better placed to resist peer pressure relating to abuse and experimentation

2.2 To ensure that:

- Those who do choose to experiment or abuse are aware of ‘harm minimisation’ strategies
- All students and staff are aware of school based guidance facilities and the role of outside agencies
- All students and staff can function in a ‘drug abuse free environment’

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**3. DRUG EDUCATION IN THE CURRICULUM**

- 3.1 The main vehicle for transmitting relevant knowledge, skills and attitudes will be the PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) programme.
- 3.2 PSHE modules on substance abuse will be delivered from Yr 7 onwards to sponsor a 'spiral' development of knowledge, skills and attitudes.
- 3.3 The programme will be co-ordinated by the teacher in charge of PSHE. Outside agencies will support with the delivery of these programmes.
- 3.4 Form Tutors delivering the programme will be provided with INSET to ensure that their knowledge is current.
- 3.4 As part of the programme students will be made aware of the school guidance and disciplinary systems.
- 3.5 The programme will deal with alcohol, tobacco, solvents and illegal drugs.
- 3.6 The core message will be **IGNORANCE = DANGER.**

**4. GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT**

4.1 The pastoral system at present has the form tutor as the first source of help and support for students. More serious issues are passed on to the Year Team who may involve the Welfare Assistant. The Medical Room will have a role in the welfare and counselling with leaflets and advice on display for both students and parents. The Student Counsellor will also provide support, counselling and advice.

**Definition of School Jurisdiction:**

- 4.2 This policy applies on school premises and/or when it involves any member of the school community during school hours, whilst students are on visits and trips, at school events and other occasions related to the school and on any occasions when the students are the responsibility of the staff. The effects of previous use are unacceptable in school time and as such student behaviour should not be under the influence of substances which contravene this policy.
- 4.3 This policy applies when students are travelling to and from school in uniform, they are considered to be representing the school and therefore the school rules apply. This includes 6<sup>th</sup> form students, who remain subject to school jurisdiction even if off site, when not being taught.

**5. SUBSTANCE MISUSE**

5.1 Students are absolutely forbidden to engage in any drug related activity whilst under the jurisdiction of the school. They are forbidden to share, or attempt to share, ingest or otherwise use any substance which, when used by the student with the intention to bring about a state of intoxication, causes the behaviour of the student to be a threat to the health and safety of the student concerned or any

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other member of the school; or otherwise disrupt the orderly operation of any part of the educational process for which the school is responsible.

- 5.2 Students must not engage in any drug related activity especially whilst under the jurisdiction of the school. This will include involvement in the purchase, possession, supply, intent to supply, being concerned in supply or consumption of drugs or abuse.
- 5.3 A student who is found under the school jurisdiction in possession of a drug, or any illegal substance, for abusive purposes is in breach of the school rule banning possession, even if the student was not planning to consume the drug while under school jurisdiction.

## 6. ILLEGAL DRUGS

A student in possession, using, and/or under the influence of illegal drugs

**or**

caught with drug paraphernalia such as oversize Rizla cigarette papers will be dealt with as follows:

- 6.1 The parents and **community** police will be informed and the student will be externally excluded. The school will convene a meeting of parent, student and a governor as soon as possible. The outcome of this meeting will depend on the attitude of the parents and student. The student will only be allowed to return to school if the student agrees to **consider** substance abuse counselling as a key element of a written agreement.
- 6.2 Permanent exclusion will apply if no contract is agreed or if the contract is subsequently broken.
- 6.3 A student shown to be involved in offering an illegal drug to others while under the care of the school will be permanently excluded.**
- 6.4 Involvement in the supply of drugs can take many forms. Any of the following, for example, would be seen as involvement in the supply of drugs and therefore a most serious offence:
- Sharing a drug with others
  - Helping or facilitating another student to gain access to drugs or come into contact with someone willing to deal drugs
  - Making arrangements for another student to buy drugs, even if the transaction itself were to take place outside the school and outside school hours
  - Making drugs or any illegal substance accessible to other students in any way

Please note the above list is not exhaustive. The individual case of involvement in the supply of drugs will be assessed independently.

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- 6.5 Intent to supply or attempt to supply is a serious offence, even if no supply actually takes place. A student does not have to make a monetary or any other gain from passing on a drug to be guilty of involvement in supply. A student does not have to be introducing or encouraging others who have no previous drug involvement to be guilty of supply. A student who supplies a drug to another, commits a serious offence even if he/she is passing over a substance which is not an illegal drug and is not harmful. For a student to lead another to unwittingly consume a drug of abuse is a serious offence.
- 6.6 Students who place themselves in such a way as to give support and encouragement to drug related activity (e.g. by joining students who truant from class to take a drug of abuse) should expect to face serious sanction for offering that support or encouragement, even if they bought no drug and consumed no drug themselves.
- 6.7 Abuse of drugs which can be bought commercially or obtained under prescription is strictly forbidden and a serious offence, again meriting exclusion.

## **7. SEARCHING IN THE CONTEXT OF DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS (See Searching, Screening and Confiscation Policy)**

- 7.1 Staff may request a student to empty their pockets and bag if the student has given reasonable cause for legitimate suspicion that he/she is in possession of a banned substance. Staff must always have another adult present as a witness, along with the student. Should the student decline, the police may be called, with the student observed in the meantime to ensure they do not dispose of any substance. Lockers may also be searched with or without student permission.

## **8. DISPOSAL**

- 8.1 In the event of a drug related incident the school will contact the Police for advice immediately. The school will act upon their guidance. The Police will be asked to oversee the disposal of any suspected illegal substances. Any suspect substance found will be confiscated by the member of staff, along with the second adult, who is conducting the initial enquiry. Both staff and student will sign the appropriate statement witnessing the handover of the drug to the member of staff conducting the initial enquiry.
- 8.2 A member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will take temporary possession of suspected illegal drugs. There will always be a second person present, as a witness, when the sample is secured in a bag and placed in the school safe until the police arrive to collect it.
- 8.3 Drugs paraphernalia found on the school premises will be handed over to the Police.

## **9. SMOKING**

Haydon is a no smoking site and has zero tolerance attitude to smoking, therefore any student found smoking or in the company of smokers will be internally excluded for one day. Students

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may be asked to attend a health aware session with the school nurse after school if the offence is repeated. Repeated offences will be deemed as persistent and defiant behaviour and may lead to lengthier exclusions and in extreme cases could warrant permanent exclusion.

## 10. ALCOHOL AND SOLVENTS

### 10.1 In possession:

- First offence: Internal exclusion and letter home
- Second offence: External exclusion and final written warning. Return on contract. If the contract is broken it is likely to lead to permanent exclusion

### 10.2 Use on site or under the influence:

- First offence: External exclusion and final written warning
- Return on contract
- If the contract is broken it is likely to lead to permanent exclusion

## 11. USEFUL CONTACTS

### **Frank About Drugs**

0800 77 66 00

[www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com)

This support provides confidential support 24 hours a day to parents as well as students. They can give information on services in the local area including counselling and specialist clinics.

### **ADFAM**

020 7553 7640

[www.adfam.org.uk](http://www.adfam.org.uk)

[admin@adfam.org.uk](mailto:admin@adfam.org.uk)

This is a charity aimed at supporting the families and friends of drug users

### **Childline**

0800 11 11 11

Free 24 hour helpline for children or young people in trouble or danger

### **Parents Against Drug Abuse (PADA)**

08457 023 867

[admin@pada.org.uk](mailto:admin@pada.org.uk)

Supports parents of drug users

### **Young Minds**

0800 018 2138

Free confidential helpline providing information and advice for any adult with concerns about mental health of a young person

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**Families Anonymous**

0845 1200 660

[www.famanon.org.uk](http://www.famanon.org.uk)

This is a support group for parents of drug users.

**Drug Helpline**

[www.drugline.org](http://www.drugline.org)

Confidential helpline for users, friends and relatives

**Drug Abuse in family**

[www.YoungCarers.net/Drug Abuse](http://www.YoungCarers.net/Drug%20Abuse)

Under 18 and in need of support caring for someone abusing drugs or alcohol

**Useful websites:**

[www.drugscope.org.uk](http://www.drugscope.org.uk)

[www.nhs.uk/livewell](http://www.nhs.uk/livewell)

[www.homeoffice.gov.uk/drugs](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/drugs)

**Local Support:**

Fountains Mill Uxbridge: 01895 257285

HAGAM Hillingdon Action Group for Addiction and Management: 01895 207788

SPACE Project – Fun Youth Group and support for children affected by drug use in their family 5 – 18 years: 01895 811206

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

Date	Issue	Status	Comments
Feb 2007	1	New	
Jan 2011	2	Update	To student committee 10.01.11 – Approved. To FGB for information only. Approved
June 2011	3	Update	To Full Governing Body 05.07.11 – Accepted
September 2014	4	Update	To Student Committee 08.10.14 – Approved. To FGB for information only.
January 2018	4	Update	No change-just front page update – to Student Committee 17.01.18 – Approved – To FGB for information only