Slough and Eton Church of England

Business and Enterprise College

A Member of Slough and East Berkshire C of E

Multi Academy Trust

Drugs Policy

Owner:	Mrs S Hind
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1. Aims, Vision and Ethos

At the heart of our drugs policy are the word of Jesus, 'I have come in order that you might have life – life in all its fullness'. Together with our school mantra of Work Hard, Be Nice, No excuses and our C.H.R.I.S.T. like values we aim to provide an environment where all members of the community are safe from harm. As such, the school takes a robust approach to any individual or group that violates our behaviour, drugs or anti-bullying policies.

This is a school where human rights are respected; as such the responsibility to maintain high standards of behaviour lies with all members of Slough and Eton community. The school acknowledges its legal duties under the Equalities Act 2010 in relation to all protected groups including SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) and will always take their circumstances into account. It is our aim to help all students to be able to take their place safely in a world where a wide range of drugs exist.

2. Education and Prevention

We believe that knowledge is the key to drug prevention and so we ensure that age appropriate education and support is provided through PSHE, Tutor Time and Science lessons as well as tutorials. Students say that they find input from external education agencies particularly useful e.g. the police. In response we aim to ensure that this is provided by approved agencies at regular intervals throughout their time at Slough and Eton. We also recognise the importance of training of staff and ensure this is regular, up to date and context specific.

2.1 Definition of a drug

A drug is a substance that affects the way in which the body functions physically, emotionally or mentally. For purposes of this policy, by 'drugs' we are referring to illegal substances and also legal substances such as: alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances, vaping products, over the counter or prescription medicines and new psychoactive substances. By 'Drugs Paraphernalia' we mean items such as cannabis grinders, rolling papers, filters, matches, lighters, vape machines and pipes etc.

2.2 Drugs on school premises

The legal definition of school premises includes everything within the property boundaries including buildings, outbuildings, playgrounds, fields and also extends to include other settings such as vehicles and any venue managed by the school at the time e.g. premises of a school trip/visit or external lesson.

2.3 Medicines

The school has a policy/procedure for the administration of medicines that must be followed for everyone's safety. We follow procedures recommended by Slough Health & Safety guidelines.

2.4 Alcohol

No alcohol may be brought on to school premises or consumed during the course of a school day. Any person (or staff, students, parents, carers and visitors) under the effects of alcohol will be asked to leave the premises and return at a later date for the safety of the whole school. Parents will be asked to remove their child from the school and will be encouraged to seek immediate medical support.

2.5 Smoking

The school premises is a no smoking site at all times. Students are not permitted to bring to school smoking materials, including matches and lighters. In the interests of health and safety, should a student be found in possession of any of these on school premises, they will be confiscated and parents informed. Smoking on the way to or from the school premises whilst wearing school uniform will result in a suitable sanction and on occasions a Fixed Term Exclusion.

2.6 Illegal drugs and "psychoactive substances"
No illegal drugs, new psychoactive substances or 'Drugs Paraphernalia' are allowed to be brought on to, or used on school premises. Bringing any such items onto school premises is considered a serious breach of this drugs policy. Seeking to influence or glamorise illegal drug use or the use of psychoactive substances either in person on school premises or via social networking sites is also considered a serious breach of this drugs policy. In the interests of health and safety, should a student be found in possession of any of these on school premises, they will be confiscated and parents informed and will result in a suitable sanction primarily a Fixed Term or Permanent Exclusion.

2.7 Solvents
The school will ensure that potentially hazardous substances it authorises are stored safely, and students will be supervised if it is necessary that they come into contact with them in the course of their work. Students are not permitted to be in possession of solvents. Bringing solvents or hazardous substances onto school premises is considered a serious breach of this drugs policy. In the interests of health and safety, should a student be found in possession of any of these on school premises, they will be confiscated and parents informed. Solent talking on the way to or from the school premises whilst wearing school uniform will result in a suitable sanction and on occasions a Fixed Term Exclusion.

2.8 Vaping and Electronic Cigarettes
The school premises is a no vaping site at all times. Students are not permitted to bring to school vaping materials. In the interests of health and safety, should a student be found in possession of any of these on school premises, they will be confiscated and parents informed. Vaping on the way to or from the school premises whilst wearing school uniform will result in a suitable sanction and on occasions a Fixed Term Exclusion. This also replies to Electronic Cigarettes

3. Responses to drug related incidents

A drug incident may be any of the following:

- Finding drugs, or related paraphernalia, on school premises
- Possession of drugs by an individual on school premises
- Use of drugs by an individual on school premises
- Supply of drugs on school premises
- Individuals disclosing information about their drug use
- Student reports of parents, staff or students using drugs
- Hiding drugs in or around the school premises for later collection (by themselves or by third parties)
- Glamorising or encouraging the use of drugs and other substances
- Any response to drug related incidents needs to balance the needs of the individual student concerned with the wider school community.

Fixed term exclusion from school is not an automatic response to a drug incident but fixed term and permanent exclusion is considered in serious cases where:

● There is a serious breach or persistent breaches of our Drugs and/or Behaviour Policies and
● Allowing a student to remain in Slough and Eton would seriously harm the education, safety or welfare of the student or others in the school

A member of the SLT will (normally) be responsible for co-ordinating the management of drug-related incidents, offering sources of support and liaising with outside agencies. Incidents will be dealt with after making an assessment of the situation and will be reported to the Headteacher. All incidents and responses will be recorded within 24 hours.

3.1 Drug Misuse outside the school premises

In line with Behaviour & Discipline in Schools (January 2016) the school may impose sanctions on a student for misusing drugs outside schools when students are:

- taking part in any school-organised or school-related activity or
- travelling to or from school or
- in some way identifiable as a student at the school. The school may also impose sanctions on a student for misusing drugs at any time, whether or not the conditions above apply, if the misuse:
- could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school or
- poses a threat to another student or member of the public or
- could adversely affect the reputation of the school.

3.2 Individuals in possession of drugs

If any student or adult on school premises is found in possession of an unauthorised drug it will be confiscated, if possible. If the drug is suspected to be illegal, the school will contact a police officer for discussion and advice. Illegal substances will be handed to the police to be legally destroyed as soon as possible and not stored. Parents and/or Carers will be informed (unless for safeguarding reasons this is not in the best interests of the student) and other professionals such as the local authority, Police, YoT, GP, Social Services will be informed or consulted as appropriate.

3.3 Confidentiality

Slough and Eton will always seek to work with parents and carers when information or allegations of drug use are made. There may be occasions when, for safeguarding reasons, this may not be appropriate (please refer to our Child Protection and Confidentiality policies for more information on this). Complete confidentiality can never be promised to a student though information given in confidence will not be shared more widely than necessary. In particular if a student chooses to disclose that they are using a drug without medical authorisation, this information will not be used against them. However, action will be taken to try to ensure the student comes to no serious harm if this is considered a risk. Regarding disclosures, staff will follow the advice given in the Child Protection policy, and at the annual safeguarding training.

3.4 Support for students

At our school the welfare of the student is paramount and intervention will be made if the school feels a student is showing signs which indicate particular risks of, or from, involvement with drugs, whether their own or the involvement of their parents'/carers'. We believe that early intervention, where possible, is significant.

Such interventions may include:

- Support and advice in school (counsellor, school nurse, Head of Year, tutor, attendance officer)
- Referral to specialist outside agencies for support
- Working with the Police

3.5 Right to Search

In line with legislation and the School's safeguarding policy the staff at Slough and Eton reserve the right to search students if they have reason to believe that they are carrying offensive weapons,

illegal substances or anything that is illegal or dangerous. Similarly, students can expect to be physically restrained if they present a danger to themselves or other members of the community.

Searches will be carried out by 2 adults, usually members of the Senior Leadership Team, at least one of whom is a member of the same gender and Parents and Carers will always be informed when this has happened. If inappropriate articles are brought into school or other items used inappropriately (e.g. straws) they may be confiscated and kept in the school safe for collection by parents and/or carers at the end of the day. If these items are dangerous or illegal they will be handed to the police for safe disposal. Slough and Eton works closely with its school Police Officer Officers. If students are involved with any activity which breaks the law the police may be involved in the confiscation of items.

Appendix

Appendix 1: Useful Organisations

ADFAM offers information to families of drug and alcohol users, and the website has a database of local family support services.
Tel: 020 3817 9410
Email: admin@adfam.org.uk
Website: www.adfam.org.uk

Alcohol Change UK works to reduce the incidence and costs of alcohol-related harm and to increase the range and quality of services available to people with alcohol-related problems
Tel: 020 3907 8480
Website: www.alcoholchange.org.uk
Email: contact@alcoholchange.org.uk

ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) a campaigning public health charity aiming to reduce the health problems caused by tobacco.
Tel: 020 7404 0242
Website: ASH.org.uk
Email: enquiries@ash.org.uk

Children's Legal Centre operates a free and confidential legal advice and information service covering all aspects of law and policy affecting children and young people.
Tel: 01206 714 650 (general queries only)
Email: info@coramclc.org.uk
Website: www.childrenslegalcentre.com

Children's Rights Alliance for England - A charity working to improve the lives and status of all children in England through the fullest implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
Email: info@crae.org.uk
Website: www.crae.org.uk

Drinkaware - An independent charity that promotes responsible drinking through innovative ways to challenge the national drinking culture, helping reduce alcohol misuse and minimise alcohol related harm.
Tel: 020 7766 9900
Website: www.drinkaware.co.uk

Drinkline - A free and confidential helpline for anyone who is concerned about their own or someone else's drinking.
Tel: 0300 123 1110 (lines are open 24 hours a day)
Website: https://www.wellaware.org.uk/organisation/drinkline-the-national-alcohol-helpline/

Drugwise is a centre of expertise on illegal drugs, aiming to inform policy development and reduce drug-related risk. The website includes detailed drug information and access to the Information and Library Service. Drug Scope also hosts the Drug Education Practitioners Forum.
Tel: 020 7520 7550 Email: info@drugscope.org.uk
Website: www.drugwise.org.uk

FRANK is the national drugs awareness campaign aiming to raise awareness amongst young people of the risks of illegal drugs, and to provide information and advice. It also provides support to parents/carers, helping to give them the skills and confidence to communicate with their children about drugs.
24 Hour Helpline: 0300 123 6600
Email: frank@talktofrank.com;
Website: www.talktofrank.com

National Children's Bureau promotes the interests and well-being of all children and young people across every aspect of their lives.
Tel: 020 7843 6000
Website: www.ncb.org.uk

Family Lives - A charity offering support and information to anyone parenting a child or teenager. It runs a free-phone helpline and courses for parents, and develops innovative projects.
Tel: 0808 800 2222
Website: www.familylives.org.uk

Re-Solv (Society for the Prevention of Solvent and Volatile Substance Abuse)
A national charity providing information for teachers, other professionals, parents and young people.
Text: 07496 959930
Information line: 01785 810762.
Email: info@re-solv.org
Website: www.re-solv.org

Smokefree - NHS Smoking
Helpline: 0300 123 1044;
Website: https://www.nhs.uk/smokefree

Stars National Initiative offers support for anyone working with children, young people and families affected by parental drug and alcohol misuse.
Website: www.childrenssociety.org.uk

Youth Offending Teams – Local Youth Offending Teams are multi-agency teams and are the responsibility of the local authority, who have a statutory duty to prevent offending by young people under the age of 18.
Website: https://www.gov.uk/youth-offending-team