

UNIVERSITY ACADEMY  
**HOLBEACH**



# University Academy Holbeach

*Principal: Steve Baragwanath B.Sc. (Hons.)*

## **Drugs Policy**

Adopted by the governing body: October 2017

To be reviewed every two years

Review date: October 2019

## **Introduction:**

This policy sets out the position of the Academy on drugs and drug education in a local and national context.

Schools have an important role to play in tackling drug misuse in England, by providing education and pastoral support to all pupils and identifying those vulnerable to drug misuse, so that they may receive extra help and be referred to other services.

## **Definition:**

Drugs are substances that may be medicinal, narcotic, hallucinogenic or stimulants. Their misuse or addiction to them are likely to cause harm. This document defines drugs as including alcohol, tobacco and illegal substances, as well as medicines and volatile substances.

## **Aims:**

- ◇ Pupils will receive education regarding the misuse of drugs and alcohol through the curriculum such as science.
- ◇ External workshops are also provided for pupils via workshops throughout the key stages.
- ◇ To ensure that pupils understand the particular significance of certain drugs.
- ◇ Staff will seek support where necessary in dealing with issues relating to the misuse of drugs and other substances. This might be through external agencies or the police.
- ◇ Parents and carers should understand that the misuse of drugs and other substances will not be tolerated by the school and they have a part to play in ensuring that their children are not putting themselves or others at risk.
- ◇ All persons connected with the Academy must understand which substances are covered by the Drugs Policy.

## **Substances considered as drugs**

Drugs may be both legal and illegal substances. The Academy regards the following as drugs in accordance with government recommendations:

Volatile (sniffable) substances (e.g. petrol, alkyl nitrates, aerosols, butane)  
Over-the-counter medicines (e.g. paracetamol, cough medicines)  
Prescription medicines (e.g. tranquillisers, amphetamines, anabolic steroids)  
Alcohol  
Tobacco  
Other legal drugs (e.g. caffeine)  
Illegal drugs (e.g. cannabis, heroin, LSD or ecstasy)

## **Use of medicines on College premises**

Any pupil needing to bring medication into the Academy should have written guidance from a parent / carer. All medication should be clearly named and any unused medication must then be collected by a parent / carer. The managing and administering of medicines are tasks undertaken voluntarily by Academy staff.

Any pupil with a long term medical need will be fully supported by the Academy. Full details should be forwarded to relevant Academy staff.

Any pupil capable of administering his or her own medication may, with written parental consent, do so. Carrying personal medication could be in the pupil's interests where swift action is necessary as in the case of asthma sufferers or diabetics.

Academy staff may not 'prescribe' any form of medication, eg. paracetamol, for pupils suffering from migraines or similar conditions. Any pupil wishing to take some form of pain relief should have written consent from a parent / carer, as described above.

### **Responding to misuse of drugs on Academy premises**

All members of staff will be aware of the risk factors that may lead to the misuse of drugs and should report any concerns to a member of the SMT. These would include:

- misuse of any substances at an early age;
- problems at school;
- low expectation;
- low achievement;
- truancy or anti-social behaviour;
- family problems / influences;
- lack of parental support;
- family alcoholism or use of drugs;
- peer influences;
- isolation from peers;
- friends who use drugs;
- inability or unwillingness to resist peer pressure.

The Academy takes a serious view on the use and supply of drugs. Where a pupil is suspected or is known to have taken or supplied drugs the Academy disciplinary procedures will be applied. The individual circumstances of pupils will be considered when applying disciplinary measures. **Illegal and unauthorised drugs are never allowed on Academy property and immediate action will be taken.**

Following any incident of drug misuse, the Academy may decide to seek advice / assistance from outside agencies. These include:

School health services  
Police Liaison Officer  
Social services

Any decision taken by the Academy to involve specialist parties would be solely for the rehabilitation of the pupil.

### Response guidelines

	<b>Incident</b>	<b>Immediate response</b>	<b>Further action</b>
1	Pupil comes for advice	Refer to LC or SMT	Inform parents/guardians
2	Parent / carer comes for advice	Refer to LC / SMT	Seek medical advice
3	Suspicion or rumour of drug use and supply	Refer to LC or SMT for investigation	Inform parents/guardians
4	Disclosure of drug use by a pupil	Refer to LC or SMT for investigation and follow-up	Inform parents/guardians
5	Discovery / observation	Detain pupil, confiscate substance if possible. Inform SMT for investigation. Inform parents/guardians. Complete incident report.	Illegal or suspicious substances to be handed to police. Academy sanctions to be imposed if considered appropriate. Inform parents/guardians
6	Intoxication	Pupil to be escorted to medical room and accompanied at all times. Medical assistance to be sought if necessary. Inform SMT and parents/guardians. Complete incident report.	Academy sanctions to be imposed if considered appropriate. Inform parents/guardians
7	Emergency situation	Seek adult help and medical assistance immediately. Inform SMT and parents/guardians. Complete incident report.	Academy sanctions to be imposed. Inform parents/guardians

### Working with the Media:

Advice will be sought from the University of Lincoln Press Office on how any media enquiries about issues relating to drugs will be handled.

No information concerning particular individuals, whether pupils or staff, should ever be released, if there is the possibility that it could incriminate these people.