



# Weston Favell School

## Drugs Policy

### POLICY FOR DRUGS EDUCATION AND MANAGEMENT OF DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

**Governor Committee: Community**  
**SLT: Catherine Russell**  
**Revised: January 2009**

#### APPROVED

**Community Committee: 14 January 09**  
**Chair of Governors: signature**

#### Background

This policy will be disseminated to staff on the intranet and to students through PSHE and Citizenship lessons.

The policy is linked with the school Behaviour Policy.

#### Definition of Terms

- The definition of a drug given by the United Nations Office on drugs and crime is: **A substance people take to change the way they think, feel or behave.**
- The term 'drugs' refers to all drugs including all illegal drugs (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971).
- It also includes all legal drugs including alcohol, volatile substances ie those that give off a gas or vapour (aerosols), ketamine, khat and alkyl nitrates (known as poppers).
- Whilst the school does not condone the smoking of tobacco, this is dealt with in a different way. (See Behaviour Policy).

#### Purposes

- To raise awareness of the effects that drugs can have to individuals and society and to enable young people to make appropriate decisions and to take responsibility for their actions
- To make the school's position clear in relation to illegal and legal drugs
- To ensure that there is a consistent approach to the management of drug related incidents
- To ensure that the school provides a safe environment for its staff and students
- To promote a safe environment for young people to learn and reach their full potential

#### Strategies and Guidelines

##### PRESCRIBED MEDICATION

- If a student is on a prescribed medication, the school should be informed by the parent/carer.
- The medication should be handed in at Student Services. It will be dispensed in accordance to the instructions on the medication after receipt of signed instructions from the parent/carer.
- Students should not carry prescription medications in school.
- No medications should be dispensed in school without this specific instruction.
- Non-prescription medications will not be issued by school staff.

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- The school is a non-smoking environment. Parents/carers will be informed if students are found smoking or in possession of smoking materials in school. Students will be punished by detention after school, subject to the normal notice to parents/carers.

#### ALCOHOL

If a student is found to be under the influence of alcohol in school or if they are in possession of alcohol in school:

- The parent/carer will be informed.
- The alcohol will be confiscated and may be collected by the parent/carer.
- The student will be sent home to recover after contact with the parents.
- Should there be a further incident, fixed term exclusion may follow.

#### ILLEGAL DRUGS

If a student is suspected of being under the influence of, or in possession of illegal substances:

- The student will be isolated from other students
- The student will be asked to empty their pockets and school bag
- Parents /carers will be informed and invited to school
- If the student refuses to co-operate with emptying their school bag and pockets, the school based Community Police Officer may be informed
- Any illegal substances will be confiscated by a senior member of staff in the presence of the school based Community Police Officer and handed to the police. If the SBCPO is not available, a second member of the SLT will be present
- Possession of illegal drugs in school will usually lead to a fixed term exclusion
- If a student is found to be in possession of drug paraphernalia, the parent/carers will be informed and the equipment handed to the SBCPO
- If a student is found to have purchased drugs on school premises or on the way to or from school, there will usually be a fixed term exclusion
- At the Readmission Meeting, all parties should sign a contract detailing the consequences of a further incident
- A further incident of possession of drugs in school may lead to permanent exclusion
- Supply of drugs to another student in school or on the way to or from school will ordinarily lead to permanent exclusion
- All incidents of this nature will be reported to the Education Welfare Officer within two weeks of the incident
- Referral to the Northamptonshire Young People's Service, formerly CAN, may be made for counselling.

#### Conclusion

Weston Favell School is determined that the school will be a safe environment for staff and students and the use, possession or supply of illegal drugs will not be tolerated.

#### RELATED POLICIES

Behaviour Policy

#### RELATED DOCUMENTS

NCC Guidance to Support Schools in Drugs Education and the Management of Drug Related Incidents (2004).