



**St John's**  
School Billericay

# **Alcohol, Smoking, Drugs & Substance Abuse Policy**

Date: July 2021  
Those Responsible: Mrs A Fleming - Deputy Headteacher

To be reviewed: Regularly

# **ALCOHOL, SMOKING, DRUGS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY**

## Introduction

St John's School, disapproves of both the misuse of drugs and alcohol by members of the school and the illegal supply of these substances. The school also disapproves of smoking.

## Policy Aims

We believe and support the following educational aims in respect of substance abuse and misuse.

1. To provide accurate information about substances.
2. To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse.
3. To widen understanding about related health and social issues.

These aims will be fulfilled through the taught curriculum (e.g. in the PSHE programme) and through co-operation with other agencies such as police, drug agencies and local authority to deliver our commitment to drugs education and to deal with any incident of substance use and misuse.

In instances involving substance misuse or supply the school will follow the procedure outlined below.

## Procedures

The Senior Management Team will be informed immediately and they will inform the parents at the earliest opportunity.

It is the School policy that while on School property, on School residential trips, on day trips and organised occasions such as sporting functions, whilst travelling to and from venues, pupils are not permitted to:

- buy, possess or smoke tobacco products
- consume, purchase or possess alcohol
- show any signs of intoxication
- deliberately inhale solvents
- possess drug-related equipment such as syringes 'bongs' and pipes
- possess, supply, use or be under the influence of illicit drugs
- be under the influence of medicines, except as part of a prescribed medical regime

## Procedures for staff

No person either on or immediately before official St John's School or business when students are involved shall be permitted to drink alcohol or be under the influence of drugs.

Where the activity is a social function either on School premises or at an agreed venue organised by the Headteacher or Parent Body, alcohol may only be consumed by employees in moderation as defined in this policy and staff should be mindful of problems associated with drinking.

Whenever alcohol is served there will be the option of non-alcoholic drinks.

### Drugs

The school will not allow its premises to be used for the production, supply or taking of any controlled drug, including cannabis. Trafficking in illicit drugs will result in expulsion from the School and the offender will normally be reported to the Police. A pupil involved in drug misuse must expect to leave the school; those who have acted as a source of supply will be excluded automatically. In all cases the school reserves the right, in its absolute discretion, to suspend or expel any pupil forthwith. In a case where a student has not directly been caught in possession of or using an illicit drug but who is exhibiting all the symptoms of drug use, parents will be contacted and strongly encouraged to have their child tested. Sanctions may apply as a result.

### Smoking

The school strongly disapproves of smoking. Pupils found smoking or in the company of pupil smokers in the school grounds, buildings, or in the local vicinity will be seen by the Senior Management Team, their parents informed, and an appropriate punishment administered. The punishment will be determined by the Senior Management Team and is likely to be dependent on previous behaviour sanctions.

### Alcohol

The school also strongly disapproves of pupils consuming alcohol on the premises or returning to school having consumed alcohol elsewhere.

Pupils found in possession of alcohol, or who are considered to have recently consumed alcohol illicitly, or who are in the company of pupils who have done so, will be seen by the Senior Management Team, their parents informed and an appropriate punishment administered. The punishment will be determined by the Senior Management Team and is likely to be dependent on previous behaviour sanctions.

### Sanctions

Sanctions will depend on circumstances and the previous behaviour of the student. Sanctions may include:

- detention, possible suspension or expulsion for an alcohol or smoking offence
- suspension, testing and counselling, or expulsion, for an illicit drug offence

In all cases (smoking, alcohol offences and illicit drug offences), parents are informed. Counselling or referral to an outside agency may be required and the student is likely to forfeit any positions of responsibility held. In the case of an illicit drug offence it is also possible that the Police will be informed.