

Aims of Anti-Drugs Policy

As a Company and school, we endeavour to encourage positive attitudes to life and to safeguard the well-being, health and safety of all members of our Company / learning community. Within this, we acknowledge our responsibility to educate pupils about the dangers and consequences of drug and substance abuse.

To help our pupils to make healthy and informed choices we aim to:

- Provide accurate information about drugs and substances.
- Increase pupil understanding about the dangers and consequences of drug, solvent and alcohol abuse.
- Help pupils to develop self-esteem, and practice interpersonal skills (e.g. how to be assertive and resist peer pressure).
- Widen pupil understanding about related health and social issues e.g. sex and sexuality, crime, HIV and AIDS.
- Seek to minimise the risks that users and potential users face.
- Support our pupils to identify sources of appropriate support both within and outside the Unit.

These aims are principally fulfilled through the curriculum in PHSE.

Topic	Objective
Recreational drugs Impact of legal drugs on health is greater than illegal drugs as more people use them.	Evaluate the impact of smoking and alcohol on health. Evaluate why some people use illegal drugs for recreation. Evaluate claims made about the effect of prescribed and nonprescribed drugs on health
Recreational drugs Cannabis Drug addiction and withdrawal symptoms – heroin and cocaine.	Describe the effects of cannabis on the body. Consider the possible progression from recreational to hard drugs. Describe the effects of heroin/cocaine addiction and withdrawal symptoms
Steroids and performance enhancing drugs.	Evaluate the use of drugs to enhance performance in sport. Consider the ethical issues of performance enhancing drugs. Describe some effects and risks of these drugs Use of Anabolic steroids

The Role of Outside Agencies

- Progression 4Work actively co-operates with outside agencies such as the Police, Health Authority, Social Services, commissioning schools and LA, in order to implement our Anti-Drugs Policy

Action to be taken as a result of Drug / Substance Abuse

- In the first case, where staff have reason to suspect that a pupil may be using drugs outside the Unit, or if a pupil discloses that they need help and advice on how to avoid further drug / substance misuse or abuse, the member of staff should inform a senior member of staff who will also inform the commissioning school and parents.
- After concerns have been raised, the pupil concerned will be interviewed by an appropriate member of staff; as a result of this interview, a support package will be negotiated.
- In all cases, where drug or substance abuse is believed to be taking place, parents / carers will be informed.

Repercussions:

The policy at Progression 4Work is that any pupil found to be in possession of, using, supplying, or selling drugs in the Unit can be permanently excluded from the environs of the Unit (alternative provision within our organisation will be sourced so the student is not without education or a school place, and the Police will be informed).

If a pupil on Outreach is found in possession of drugs the Outreach Mentor should inform SLT. A member of SLT will meet the Outreach Mentor to collect the drugs using sealed bag and immediately ring our Police Early Intervention Officer, then they will lock them away at the Unit until our Police Early Intervention Officer can collect them. SLT will inform parents, the commissioner and the police. If a crime number is issued, this should be written on the sealed bag.