

David Nieper Education Trust



Alcohol, Tobacco, Drug and Substance Abuse Policy

**This policy was originated by Emma Merchant,
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Version Control

Version 1	Approved by Governors May 2018
Version 2	Approved August 2018
Version 3	Reviewed June 2021
Version 4	Reviewed Summer 2022

Signed:	Date:
Anne Birch	September 2022

It is next due for re-approval in Summer 2023

Signed:

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, DRUG AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

1. STATEMENT OF POLICY

Drugs are substances that alter the mind or body. The supply, distribution, possession or use of illegal drugs or 'legal highs' by members of the academy is unacceptable and not permitted. The same applies to the possession of paraphernalia related to drugs consumption. Alcohol consumption is prohibited.

The academy acknowledges that a positive academy ethos helps pupils to feel valued and part of the school community and in so doing helps to foster self-images which may help pupils cope better with situations involving drugs.

The policy is informed by DfE and ACPO drugs advice for schools.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/270169/drug_advice_for_schools.pdf

2. AIMS

The academy aims through the curriculum and other areas of academy life

- a. To educate all the pupils about substance use and abuse in accordance with their age
- b. To provide all the pupils with accurate information about substances
- c. To provide pupils with access to advice and support if needed
- d. To increase understanding of the implications and possible consequences of use and abuse
- e. To widen understanding about related health and social issue
- f. To enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices on the basis of knowledge

3. RESPONDING TO DRUG-RELATED INCIDENTS

Overarching Principle

In all situations involving drugs, the main priority will be to ensure the safety and welfare of the student(s). This will include consideration of the risks to the student(s) with reference to the academy's Safeguarding Policy and DfE guidance on Keep Children Safe in Education.

- a. All situations will be considered before deciding on the response
- b. Pupils will be treated as individuals and each case taken on its own merits
- c. The needs of the child will always come first
- d. Parents and appropriate senior staff will be involved at an early stage and throughout any investigation
- e. Support agencies, including the police, will be involved if appropriate
- f. Support for pupils will be maintained and counselling arranged if appropriate
- g. Academy responses may include both a disciplinary and counselling approach
- h. The academy may place a pupil on a drugs testing programme.

4. DISCIPLINARY RESPONSES

Situations which include breaking the academy rules on drugs will result in a sanction. The type of sanction will depend on the exact nature and degree of the offence. The academy employs a variety of sanctions related to the offence, e.g. community service, educational material to watch or read as well as to copy out specific facts about drugs and the possible consequences; Internal Exclusion, fixed term and permanent exclusions.

The following procedures should be taken for any instance involving smoking, alcohol or drugs:

- a. The name of the pupil should be given to SLT with the date, time and place of the incident.
- b. The student/s involved will be asked to hand over any items which they should not have about their person. If a student refuses to hand over any items a search may take place for any contraband paraphernalia as per the Behaviour Policy. (Searching and screening pupils is conducted in line with the DfE's latest guidance on searching, screening and confiscation. Only headteachers, SLT and the pastoral team can carry out searches).
- c. SLT in consultation with the Headteacher will then decide on the course of action to be taken.
- d. If the pupil appears to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time SLT become aware of the incident, then the priority should be to ensure that they are safe and in no immediate danger to themselves or others. Appropriate medical advice should be sought at the earliest opportunity.

4.1 SMOKING SANCTIONS

The sanctions below will come into effect if a pupil is caught smoking, has smoking paraphernalia or an e-cigarette type device when in our care, or in our David Nieper uniform.

- a. First offence: the pupil will be seen by SLT and spoken to about the effects of smoking and parents/carers will be informed. They will be issued with a C4 detention.
- b. Second offence: the pupil will be seen by SLT and spoken to about the effects of smoking and the pupil may be given an Internal Exclusion of between 1 – 3 days. Parents/carers will be informed by telephone.
- c. Subsequent offences: Continual offences may lead to a form of exclusion which could be Internal, external, or Fixed Term.

4.2 ALCOHOL AND DRUGS SANCTIONS

Any offence: the pupil will be referred to the Headteacher after a thorough investigation, who will decide on the course of action. In all cases, the Headteacher will consider their response in line with the academies Safeguarding Policy. Ultimately, there may be a form of exclusion applied which could be Internal, external or Suspension or Permanent.

4.3 SUPPORT

The support provided will vary according to the needs of the individual. Support may include:

- a. Educational material to watch and/or read
- b. Work units to complete
- c. Work with Multi Agency Team and/ or other professionals
- d. Work with the Police
- e. Counselling
- f. Referral to school nurse
- g. Drug/ smoking and/or alcohol cessation or prevention programme

5. INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

If there is a drugs-related incident reported or a suspected drugs-related incident reported to SLT then a thorough investigation takes place in accordance with the Academy Rewards and Behaviour Policy. This will include seeing all pupils and/or staff involved and statements taken. With all the evidence gathered from this, a decision will then be made with regard to any appropriate sanctions. The police will also be informed with regard to the nature of the incident. The police themselves will then decide on any course of action they may wish to take which would be separate to any action the academy would take. The academy will take advice from the police with regards to any drugs that have been confiscated or any drug paraphernalia which has been confiscated from pupils.

At the start of the investigation parents/carers will be informed that an investigation is underway and, once the investigation has been completed, will be informed of the outcome. The level of involvement of the pupil in the drug-related incident will determine the sanction to be applied.

If a pupil has been selling, giving or buying drugs to/for another pupil either in the academy or whilst taking part in a recognised David Nieper Academy activity or whilst wearing the David Nieper Academy uniform then this will lead to an automatic permanent exclusion.

Links to other policies:

- Behaviour Policy
- Safeguarding

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 Email: contact@alcoholchange.org.uk Website: www.alcoholconcern.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 Email: enquiries@ash.org.uk Website: Action on Smoking and Health (ASH)
- 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
- 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)
- 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. DrugScope 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
- 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>