

ALCOHOL, SMOKING, DRUGS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

Statement of Policy

Tring Park School, disapproves of both the misuse of drugs and alcohol by members of the school and the illegal supply of these substances. The school 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 Principal will be informed immediately and he or another senior member of staff will inform the parents at the earliest opportunity.

Drugs

The school will not allow its premises to be used for the production, supply or taking of any controlled drug, including cannabis, and although there is no legal obligation to inform the Police such action will normally be taken.

A pupil involved in drug misuse must expect to leave the school; those who have acted as a source of supply will be expelled automatically. In all cases the school reserves the right, in its absolute discretion, to suspend or expel any pupil forthwith. Where there is reasonable cause for suspicion that a pupil may be involved with drugs, a urine (or other suitable) test will be taken and sent for analysis. The procedures are available to parents on request. Any positive test will result in expulsion regardless of where the substance was taken. Testing is the best possible

protection for the innocent as well as compelling evidence against those who would put others at risk.

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 Principal, their parents informed and the appropriate punishment administered:

First Offence: £10 fine, gated for one week, Principal's detention and a letter home.

Second Offence: Will include all of the foregoing sanctions and/or a period of suspension from school.

Third Offence: Will include all of the foregoing sanctions and/or expulsion from school.

Two or more terms free of a smoking offence will move the pupil back one step on the punishment scale.

Alcohol

The school also strongly disapproves of pupils consuming alcohol on the premises or returning to school having consumed alcohol elsewhere. There are certain exceptions which relate solely to members of the Sixth Form. Below the Sixth Form consumption of alcohol at any time and in any circumstances is forbidden.

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 Principal, their parents informed and the appropriate punishment administered:

First Offence: £10 fine, gated for one week, Principal's detention and a letter home.

Second Offence: Will include all of the foregoing sanctions and/or a period of suspension from school.

Third Offence: Will include all of the foregoing sanctions and/or expulsion from school.

The school reserves the right to breathalyse a pupil if there is reasonable cause for suspicion that the pupil may have consumed alcohol.

Two or more terms free of alcohol will move the pupil back one step on the punishment scale.

