

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, vaping, snus and the use of other devices containing nicotine.

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 the School will inform the parents at the earliest opportunity.

Drugs

The school will not allow its premises to be used for the possession, production, supply or taking of any controlled or recreational drug, including any form of cannabis or cannabis infused products that only contain CBD. A pupil involved in drug misuse should expect to be expelled; those who have acted as a source of supply will be expelled automatically and the police may be informed. 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 according to our Drugs Testing policy which is available from the school upon request. In order to help protect the community, the School reserves the right to arrange for police drug sniffer dogs to conduct searches of the premises on occasion and without notice.

Smoking, vaping, snus and other substances containing nicotine

The school is a strictly no-smoking/vaping/snus site, and in any case strongly disapproves of smoking, vaping, snus and other substances containing nicotine. Pupils found smoking, vaping or using snus, or those found in the company of pupils using these devices in the school grounds, buildings, or in the local vicinity will be seen by the Principal, their parents informed and the appropriate sanction administered.

Alcohol

The school strongly disapproves of pupils consuming alcohol on the premises or returning to school having consumed alcohol elsewhere. Pupils, regardless of their age, may not keep alcohol on school premises. There are certain exceptions which relate solely to members of the Sixth Form regarding the consumption of alcohol under staff or other adult supervision. 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, or who have helped pupils to obtain alcohol, will be seen by the Principal, their parents informed and the appropriate sanction administered.

The school reserves the right to breathalyse a pupil if there is reasonable cause for suspicion that the pupil may have consumed alcohol. If a pupil is found to be providing alcohol for others, or is found to be incapacitated as a result of drinking alcohol, then he or she may be suspended or, in extremis, expelled.