

Alcohol, Drugs and Misuse of Substances Policy

The Lighthouse School has strong attitudes to Drug, Alcohol and Substance Misuse.

No alcohol/drugs or other substances shall be consumed, taken or brought on to the premises of The Lighthouse School

No member of staff/ learner should arrive for work under the influence of alcohol, drugs or other substances

All staff and learners will receive training in drugs awareness

If it comes to the attention of, or a staff member suspects, that a staff member/learner is consuming alcohol, using drugs or misusing substances then immediate help must be sought. This may involve pastoral support sessions or a referral being made to Kent Counselling for Addiction. The Principal and Head of school must be made aware and will make the referrals.

The school's responsibility is to:

- raise awareness to staff and young people involved or at risk of drug involvement
- inform the staff, students, parents/carers of Drugs Policy, procedures and multi-agency approaches
- promote learning in relation to substance abuse
- monitor implementation of substance education program
- ensure appropriate intervention procedures are in place

Managing a drug related incident

Should there be suspicion about drugs being brought onto the premises or students behaving in a way which suggests that they are under the influence, the Head of School/Principal should be informed.

The learner(s) should be interviewed and advised of the suspicion; this may result in parents/carers being informed. The learner may need to be sent home.

Possession on the premises of class B substances will see the student sent home and a meeting arranged with parents/carers.

A second offence or possession of a class A substance will result in the Police being called and parents/carers informed. Suspension from school for an agreed period of time may be appropriate. A repeat offence will lead to permanent exclusion from school.

All incidents and causes for concern should be recorded and reported immediately.

Staff Training:

All staff members are made aware of the Drugs Policy and related procedures as part of their induction training. As part of interim reviews and annual performance reviews, if further staff training needs are identified, The Principal will identify and request further training.

Substance Education:

As part of the curriculum, and outlined in all student's Student Personal Profiles, drugs education is a part of the KS3 & 4 Key Steps course. This course is reviewed annually.

The schools police liaison officer is invited to run sessions about the dangers of substance use; this will include the legislative procedures.

Addaction may be invited in to deliver other bespoke sessions.

All staff should seek to identify any additional learning needs students may have in this area and facilitate additional drugs education where necessary through the Head of School

Revised: May 2018