

ALCOHOL & SUBSTANCE MISUSE (Student)

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VERSION CONTROL

Version No:	Type of change	Date	Revisions from previous version
0.1	New Document	May 2021	New Policy
1.1	PPWG review	May 2021	Cover sheet update Section 4.a - typo error Section 4.2 - final sentence updated Section added for Links to Other Policies Section 5.a.iii - typo Incident table - Section 6.e - Section 8.h - website link
1.2	PPWG review	17.6.21	Typos and grammar updated throughout document.
1.3	Interim Review	May 2022	Section 6.e added. Terminology updated to Suspensions

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1. STATUS

- a. Non statutory.

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. This policy is under continuous review by the Trust Director of Inclusion, alongside Academy Senior Leadership Teams due to the ever-changing nature of the drugs landscape both nationally and locally.
- b. The policy is informed by Department for Education (DfE) and the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) drugs advice for academies.
- c. The City Learning Trust actively seeks to provide an environment where all members of the community are safe from harm. As such, the Trust takes a robust approach to any individual or group that violates our behaviour, drugs or anti-bullying policies.
- d. The City Learning Trust Academies are places where human rights are respected; as such the responsibility to maintain high standards of behaviour lies with all members of the City Learning Trust Community. The Trust acknowledges its legal duties under the Equalities Act 2010 in relation to all protected groups including SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) and will always take their circumstances into account.

3. DEFINITION OF A DRUG

- a. A drug is a substance that affects the way in which the body functions physically, emotionally or mentally. For purposes of this policy, by 'drugs' we are referring to illegal substances and also legal substances such as: alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances, CBD oils, over the counter or prescription medicines and new psychoactive substances. By Drugs Paraphernalia we mean items such as cannabis grinders, rolling papers, filters, vapes, matches, lighters and pipes etc.

4. DRUGS ON ACADEMY PREMISES

- a. The definition of Academy premises for the purposes of this policy and procedures associated includes everything within the property boundaries including buildings, outbuildings, playgrounds, fields and also extends to include other settings such as vehicles, Academy minibuses, hired buses or any venue managed by the Academy at the time, for example premises of a trip or visit. Where incident-management is concerned, it also includes students travelling to and from the Academy site.

4.1 Medicines

- a. The Academy has a policy for the administration of medicines that must be followed for the safety of the Academy community. Please refer to the Supporting Students with Medical Conditions policy for further information.

4.2 Alcohol

- a. No alcohol may be brought on to Academy premises or consumed during any period where the Academy is responsible for the welfare of the student. This includes residential visits and trips. Any student under the effects of alcohol will be asked to leave the premises for the safety of themselves and the Academy community. Parents / carers will be asked to remove their children from the Academy and will be encouraged to seek immediate medical support. Any student under the influence of Alcohol during the Academy may be receive a Suspension, or in serious circumstances, a Permanent Exclusion.

4.3 Smoking

- a. Academy premises are a no smoking sites at all times. Students are not permitted to bring to the Academy smoking materials, including matches and lighters. In the interests of health and safety, should a student be found in possession of any of these items on Academy premises, they will be confiscated and parents / carers informed and these items will be given to the police where appropriate. Smoking on Academy premises will result in a sanction being issued, which may be a Suspension.
- b. This also applies to 'vaping' and the use of electronic cigarettes.

4.4 Illegal Drugs & “Psychoactive Substances”

- a. No illegal drugs, new psychoactive substances or drugs paraphernalia are allowed to be brought on to, or used on Academy premises. Bringing any such items onto the Academy site is considered a serious breach of this drugs policy. Seeking to influence or ‘glamorise’ illegal drug use or the use of psychoactive substances either in person on Academy premises or via social networking sites is also considered a serious breach of this drugs policy, which may result in Suspensions or in extreme circumstances, Permanent Exclusion.

4.5 Medicinal Cannabis for Students with Particular Medical Conditions

- a. "Medical cannabis" is a broad term for any sort of cannabis-based medicine used to relieve symptoms of particular conditions.
- b. Very few people in England are likely to get a prescription for medical cannabis. Currently, it is only likely to be prescribed for the following conditions:
 - i. children and adults with rare, severe forms of epilepsy;
 - ii. adults with vomiting or nausea caused by chemotherapy;
 - iii. people with muscle stiffness and spasms caused by multiple sclerosis (MS).
- c. If a student with one or more of the above conditions is prescribed “medical cannabis” a full and comprehensive care plan will be written with a care specialist and a full risk assessment will be completed.

5. DRUG EDUCATION

- a. The Academy provides a planned drug education curriculum through the following:
 - i. The National Curriculum in Science order outlines the content of the statutory drugs education;
 - ii. In Primary aged children, children are taught about wider healthy-lifestyle choices;
 - iii. Key Stage 3, 11-14 year olds should be taught that abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs affects health; that the body’s natural defenses may be enhanced by immunisation and medicines; and how smoking affects lung structure and gas exchange;
 - iv. Key Stage 4, 14-16 year olds should be taught the effects of solvents, tobacco, alcohol and other drugs on body functions;
 - v. RSHE / PSHE reflects other discretionary topics (schemes of work etc) that reflect knowledge, understanding, attitudes and social skills: this will:
 - Enable students to make healthy, informed choices;
 - Promote positive attitudes to healthy lifestyles;
 - Provide accurate information about substances;
 - Increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse;
 - Widen understanding about related health and social issues;
 - Teach students the effects of solvents and other illegal drugs;
 - Enable young people to identify sources of appropriate advice and personal support.
- b. On the whole, it will be teachers who will teach drug education but, where appropriate, outside visitors may make a contribution. Such visitors will be used in a planned way and their contributions will be evaluated. Teachers will have access to on-going advice, support and training as part of their own professional development. The Academy actively cooperates with agencies such as the LA, police, health and drug agencies.

6. RESPONSES TO DRUG-RELATED INCIDENTS

- a. A drug-related incident may be any of the following:
 - i. Finding drugs, or related paraphernalia, on Academy premises;
 - ii. Possession of drugs by an individual on Academy premises;
 - iii. Use of drugs by an individual on Academy premises;
 - iv. Supply of drugs on Academy premises;
 - v. Individuals disclosing information about their drug use;
 - vi. Student reports of parents, employees or students using drugs;
 - vii. Hiding drugs in or around the Academy premises for later collection (by themselves or by third parties);
 - viii. ‘Glamorising’ or encouraging the use of drugs and other substances.

- b. Any medical emergencies will be dealt with in accordance with our policy on such situations.
- i. In cases of substance use/misuse or supply on the premises, during the Academy day or during Academy visits, the Principal/Headteacher must be informed (or the Director of Inclusion in their absence);
 - ii. The case will be discussed with the young person and a written record taken; parents/carers will be informed by the Principal/Headteacher or appropriate Senior Leader as soon as possible;
 - iii. The support of outside agencies will be sought if appropriate;
 - iv. The police will be informed if a criminal act has been committed;
 - v. The Academy will consider each incident individually and will employ a range of responses to deal with each incident. However, likely outcomes and procedures are detailed below;
 - vi. The Local Governing Committee will be informed of drug-related incidents as they are concerning other matters relating to the Academy;
 - vii. The Principal/Headteacher will take responsibility for liaison with the media, where required.
- c. Employee responses to drug-related incidents:

Type of incident	Action by Employees
Student appears to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol.	A member of the Senior Leadership Team must be informed. The initial priority is the safety of the student and those around them and if necessary dealt with as a medical emergency administering first aid or summoning appropriate support. Depending on circumstances, the student may be questioned and searched. Parents / carers will be advised to seek medical attention for the student. A permanent exclusion may follow. If the child is felt to be at risk the Academy will refer to the Local Authority, see the Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy for more information.
Student is seen with drugs / alcohol in his/her possession	A member of the Senior Leadership Team must be informed. The student will be questioned and searched. The alcohol / drugs will be confiscated and handed to the police. A permanent exclusion may follow. If the child is felt to be at risk the Academy will refer to the Local Authority, see the Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy for more information.
Student seen consuming drugs and / or alcohol	A member of the Senior Leadership Team must be informed. The initial priority is the safety of the student and those around them and if necessary dealt with as a medical emergency administering first aid or summoning appropriate support. Depending on circumstances, the student may be questioned and searched, any remaining drugs will be confiscated and the police will be informed. Parents / carers will be advised to seek support for the student. A permanent exclusion may follow. If the child is felt to be at risk the Academy will refer to the Local Authority, see the Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy for more information.
A student is caught smoking on the Academy premises or is part of a group of students smoking.	A Senior Leader is informed; the student will be isolated as appropriate. Persistent offences will result in fixed term exclusion from the Academy. Students will be offered support to stop smoking.

- d. In all cases, the Academy will offer appropriate social and emotional support, including referrals to specialist services.
- e. In the event of the Academy being advised if a further search will need to be completed, the Academy will work with the police to identify an appropriate adult in line with Code C within the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.
- f. Likely action taken by the Academy:

Incident	Action
Supplying class 'C' illegal drugs	Permanent Exclusion
Supplying class 'A'/'B' illegal drugs (e.g. Cocaine, Heroin, Crack, LSD, Amphetamines, Ecstasy)	Permanent Exclusion
Supplying drugs for financial or similar gain	Permanent Exclusion
Supplying alcohol or tobacco to students under the age of 18	Suspension or Permanent Exclusion
Smoking on site	Removal from the mainstream lessons for a fixed period. Suspension for repeated offences
Consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs	Suspension. Permanent Exclusion for repeated offences or in extreme circumstances.

7. DRUG MISUSE OUTSIDE OF THE ACADEMY PREMISES

- a. In line with Behaviour & Discipline in Schools (January 2016) the Academy may impose sanctions on a student for misusing drugs outside the Academy when students are:
 - i. taking part in any Academy-organised or -related activity or;
 - ii. travelling to or from the Academy or;
 - iii. in some way identifiable as a student at the Academy.
- b. The Academy may also impose sanctions on a student for misusing drugs at any time, whether or not the conditions above apply, if the misuse:
 - i. could have repercussions for the orderly running of the Academy or;
 - ii. poses a threat to another student or member of the public or;
 - iii. could adversely affect the reputation of the Academy or the City Learning Trust.

8. USEFUL ORGANISATIONS

- a. 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
- b. 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
- c. 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: <http://ash.org.uk>
- d. 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
- e. Children's Rights Alliance for England - A charity working to improve the lives and status of all children in England through the fullest implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Email: info@crae.org.uk Website: www.crae.org.uk

- f. 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
- g. 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)
- h. 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.
- i. DrugScope also hosts the Drug Education Practitioners Forum. Tel: 020 7520 7550 Email: info@drugscope.org.uk Website: www.drugwise.org.uk
- j. 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
- k. Mentor UK is a non-government organisation with a focus on protecting the health and wellbeing of children and young people to reduce the damage that drugs can do to their lives. Tel: 020 963 2751. Email admin@mentoruk.org Website: <https://mentoruk.org.uk/>
- l. National Children's Bureau promotes the interests and well-being of all children and young people across every aspect of their lives. Tel: 020 7843 6000 Website: www.ncb.org.uk
- m. 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
- n. Re-Solve (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
- o. 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
- p. 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>

9. LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

- a. Behaviour Policy
- b. PSHE / RSHE Policy
- c. Supporting students with Medical Conditions

10. MONITORING AND REVIEW

- a. This policy has been approved by the Board of Trustees. It will be reviewed by the Policy and Procedures Working Group on a bi-annual basis to ensure continuing compliance.