



DRUG POLICY

This whole school policy also applies to the Early Years Foundation Stage

Definition

In this policy the word 'drug' is used to cover all substances that chemically affect the way the mind or body functions. These include over-the-counter and prescription medicines; legal substances such as alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes and vapes; illegal substances including new psychoactive substances; and any items purporting to be drugs or drug-related paraphernalia. This policy applies at all times when a pupil is in the care of the School. It will also apply to incidents out of School where a pupil or the reputation of the school is affected. This policy has been written in compliance with:

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

Drug Education

Aims

Drug education is a major component of drug prevention and aims to:

- minimise the number of young people engaging in drug use;
- prevent or delay the age of onset of first use;
- reduce the harm caused by drugs; and
- enable those who have concerns about drugs to seek help.

Drug education provides opportunities for pupils to develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, relating this to their own and others' actions.

To achieve this, Tormead's drug education programme will help the pupils to:

- Gain knowledge and understanding about the effects, risks and dangers of drugs and correct myths and misunderstandings.
- Develop skills to make informed decisions, including communication, self-awareness, negotiation, finding information, help and advice, helping others and managing situations involving drugs.
- Develop understanding of the legal situation regarding the use of drugs and alcohol. Develop skills to manage situations involving drugs, including assessing and avoiding risks, assertiveness, developing the moral courage to reject peer pressure which may lead to experimentation, by promoting individual self-esteem and self-confidence,
- Explore their own and other people's attitudes to drugs, drug use and drug users, including challenging stereotypes and dispelling myths and exploring media and social influences.

Content

The drug education teaching programme is age-appropriate for each key stage. Drugs is covered as part of the PSHE & RSE curriculum in every year group.

Key Stage 1 focuses on medicines and how to be safe; being ill and getting better; being safe with household substances and risks.

Key Stage 2 focuses on effects and risks of smoking and alcohol; resisting peer pressure; and making safe decisions.

At Key Stage 3 pupils are taught about the damaging effects of tobacco-smoking, vaping and alcohol. They also look at why people might use drugs, both legal and illegal and discuss peer pressure and making decisions about drugs. KS3 Pupils will also have access to a specialised talk by outside professionals through the Tormead Talks Programme during their Key Stage 3 years.

At Key Stage 4 & 5 pupils are taught about the effects of different stimulants and depressant upon the body and the long-term consequences of drug use, including addiction and withdrawal symptoms, as part of the Biology iGCSE course. In PSHE, pupils again study the effects of both drugs and alcohol, including addiction to both and the link to serious mental health conditions, as well as the develop and journey of drugs (County Lines), rejection of stereotypes and understanding addiction. Pupils are also signposted to support. They also learn about the law as it pertains to various substances. KS4 & 5 Pupils will also have access to a specialised talk by outside professionals through the Tormead Talks Programme during their Key Stage 4 & 5 years.

The Tormead Talk programme will also offer a specialised talk for parents, enabling them to acquire knowledge, highlighting literature, support and advice. Parents are encouraged to contact the school if they have concerns about the harmful use of substances.

Management of Authorised Drugs on School Premises

Authorised drugs include prescribed and over the counter medicines.

Senior School

- In the Senior School all medication goes to the School Health Care Lead in the first instance; it is her responsibility to keep it securely in a locked cupboard and to ensure parental authority is in place to administer it. All medication should be administered by the Health Care Lead or the person providing cover in her absence.
- Pupils in the Senior School are responsible for their own asthma inhalers, adrenaline auto-injectors and insulin. Pupils prescribed with Ventolin, or an adrenaline auto injector should have at least one of their prescribed medications in their school bag at all times. Pupils are required to take their emergency medications with them around the school and sports sites at all times.
- Emergency (generic) anaphylaxis and asthma kits are available in the Senior School Reception, the Wellbeing Centre Medical Room and Prep School Staff Room. These kits are to be used for pupils with a medical diagnosis of asthma or allergy. The emergency kits are to be used in the event of loss or damage to a pupil's prescribed medication or in the event that subsequent doses are required.
- The Health Care Lead may ask pupils to show their spare emergency medications at any time.

Prep School

- In the Prep School all medication goes to the Prep School Office. No medication will be given without parental authority.
- Pupils in the Prep School who require salbutamol inhalers for asthma or adrenaline auto injectors for anaphylaxis will have at least one of their prescribed emergency medications in the Prep School Staffroom, clearly labelled. When a child is deemed

responsible by their parent(s) and school teacher they may carry one of their prescribed emergency medication in their school bag. Prep school children with diabetes will have their equipment in the Prep School Staffroom. Pupils who are carrying their own emergency medications are required to take their emergency medications with them around the school and sport sites at all times. Most pupils in Prep School will have their emergency medications in the Staff Room and teachers will take them with them when off Prep School site.

- Emergency anaphylaxis and asthma kits are available in the Prep School Staff Room, Senior School Reception, and the Wellbeing Medical Room. These kits are to be used for pupils with a medical diagnosis of asthma or allergy. The emergency kits are to be used in the event of loss or damage to a pupil's prescribed medication or in the event that subsequent doses are required.

Staff are required to keep personal medicines secure either by locking them away when not in use or keeping them on their person at all times.

Legal but Unauthorised Drugs

Alcohol

While the School may provide alcohol to adults on social occasions, drinking or possessing alcohol is forbidden for all pupils. An appropriate sanction will be given to any pupil caught either drinking, in possession of or under the influence of alcohol.

Inappropriate use of alcohol by an employee on school premises or during school hours will be treated as a disciplinary matter.

Tobacco and Electronic Cigarettes

Tormead operates a no smoking policy over the whole school site. No pupil or member of staff may smoke or use electronic cigarettes on school premises.

An appropriate sanction will be given to any pupil:

- in possession of cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, vapes, lighters or matches
- either smoking or using an electronic cigarette, vape, lighter or matches on school premises

Smoking or the use of electronic cigarettes by an employee on school premises or during school hours will be treated as a disciplinary matter.

Other Substances

The Head reserves the right to issue sanctions to pupils for the misuse of prescribed and over the counter drugs.

Illegal Drugs

No Tormead pupil or member of staff may bring illegal drugs, including new psychoactive substances, into school and/ or use illegal drugs on school premises.

All incidents must be reported to a member of the Executive Group (EG) immediately and information shared on a need to know basis. The Head will always be informed.

Where a pupil discloses to a member of staff that she is taking illegal drugs, or that she has brought such drugs onto the School premises, the teacher should make clear to the pupil that the information will be shared immediately with the Head.

The school will consider each incident individually. Any transgression of this policy will normally lead to permanent exclusion. The welfare of the pupil(s) will always be at the centre

of any discussion but this will be balanced against the welfare of the school community. Should permanent exclusion be the sanction, the Head will offer support to the pupil and her family in an attempt to keep to a minimum the detrimental effects of her action.

- Parents/carers will be involved at an early stage and throughout any investigations.
- Support agencies will be involved, if appropriate
- Appropriate counselling and support will be available to those pupils deemed to be at risk.
- The police will be contacted in any case of the use of illegal substances.

Any employee of the School taking illegal drugs on school premises or during school hours or selling or buying such drugs or under the influence of illegal drugs during school hours will be dismissed immediately.

Search

For the good of the entire community, the school reserves the right to search a pupil's belongings or person if she is suspected of possessing illegal substances or any legal ones that should not be in school (for examples: tobacco, electronic cigarettes, vapes, alcohol).

The search will normally be carried out by appropriate staff with another member of staff present, but there may be reasons where, for the best interest of the whole school community, this may not be possible.

When the Head has evidence to suggest there has been a drug-related incident he will inform the Chair of Governors immediately and an investigation will be initiated.

Please refer to the Confiscation and Search Policy for further details.

Outside School

At the discretion of the Head, a sanction (including suspension and exclusion) may be given for any behaviour, either inside or outside School, which, following fair and thorough investigation, is:

- deemed inappropriate or unacceptable;
- or brings any member of the School and/ or the School itself into disrepute.

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Support

If a pupil comes forward and voluntarily identifies themselves as a drug user (or having an alcohol problem) and asks for help, or if their parents or friends ask for help on their behalf, the School may, depending upon the circumstances and at the discretion of the Head, offer the pupil the opportunity to reform their habit with the support of counselling either within the School or from external services.

As part of this supportive approach, the Head may require a pupil and their parents to agree to sign a 'Drugs and Harmful Substances Contract', which includes a provision for random drugs testing. If a student declines to agree, either to the terms of the contract, or to undertake a particular test, then the School may choose to take the view that the student is not committed to reforming their habit. At this point, the School may choose to pursue a sanctions-based approach to the student's drug use.

Pupils can discuss their individual worries about drugs, alcohol or other substances with any member of staff including their Form Tutor or Head of Year. They can also refer themselves to the School Nurses and to the School Counsellors for individual guidance, without fearing sanctions or adverse report.

Other Policies

The School also has policies in related areas that should be read in conjunction with this one. They are:

- Behaviour Policy
- Confiscation and Search Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Girls' Codes of Conduct
- Staff Code of Conduct (Employment Manual)

Date of Last Review: 9 March 2022

By Resolution of the Governing Body:

MRS R HARRIS
Chair of Governors
22nd March 2022

MR D BOYD
Head

Appendix 1

Useful Organisations

Addaction is one of the UK's largest specialist drug and alcohol treatment charities. As well as adult services, they provide services specifically tailored to the needs of young people and their parents. The Skills for Life project supports young people with drug misusing parents.
www.addaction.org.uk

ADFAM offers information to families of drug and alcohol users, and the website has a database of local family support services. Tel: 020 7553 7640 Email: admin@adfam.org.uk
www.adfam.org.uk

Alcohol Concern 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 7264 0510. Email: contact@alcoholconcern.org.uk 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 7739 5902 Email: enquiries@ash.org.uk
www.ash.org.uk

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 7307 7450 www.drinkaware.co.uk/

Drinkline - A free and confidential helpline for anyone who is concerned about their own or someone else's drinking. Tel: 0800 917 8282 (lines are open 24 hours a day)

Drug Education Forum – this website contains a number of useful papers and briefing sheets for use by practitioners: www.drugeducationforum.com

DrugScope 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 www.drugscope.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: 0800 776600 Email: frank@talktofrank.com www.talktofrank.com

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 7739 8494. Email admin@mentoruk.org www.mentoruk.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. Tel: 01785 817885 Information line: 01785 810762 Email: information@re-solv.org www.re-solv.org

Smokefree - NHS Smoking Helpline: 0800 169 0 169 Website: <http://smokefree.nhs.uk> Stars National Initiative offers support for anyone working with children, young people and families affected by parental drug and alcohol misuse. www.starsnationalinitiative.org.uk

Surrey Young Person Substance Misuse Service – county-wide specialist treatment service offering free and confidential advice and support. <https://www.catch-22.org.uk/surrey-substance-misuse-young-persons-information-page/>