
THE HAMMOND – Drug and Alcohol Misuse

Revised Aug 10, Reviewed Aug 11, Aug 12, Nov 12, Nov 13, August 2014, August 2015, September 2016, September 2017

Every Child Matters:

- Be Healthy
- Stay Safe
- Enjoy and Achieve
- Make a Positive Contribution
- Achieve Economic Wellbeing.

Helping Every Child to Achieve More

It is school policy that the consumption of alcohol, tobacco or any illegal drug is not permitted on school property by any pupil/student attending The Hammond.

The Hammond operates a No Smoking Policy for everyone. The consumption of alcohol on the premises for social occasions is only permitted by permission of the Principal.

A Definition of Drugs

Drugs are substances that alter the mind or the body. This policy is concerned with legal drugs such as alcohol, tobacco and solvents, over the counter, prescribed drugs such as tranquilisers and painkillers, **and** illegal drugs such as ecstasy, LSD, cannabis, crack/cocaine and heroin, and other illicit drugs young people may use, such as 'poppers'. Illicit drugs which have no legal classification but for which there can be no possible justification for use or presence in school will be treated by the school in the same way as serious alcohol abuse.

Searching and Confiscation

The Principal, or staff authorised by the Principal, have a statutory power to search pupils/students or their possessions, without consent, where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil may have a prohibited item.

Prohibited items include, but are not limited to:

- knives or weapons
- alcohol
- illegal drugs
- stolen items
- tobacco and cigarette papers
- fireworks
- pornographic images (Safeguarding)
- any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil).

Education and Support

As part of our Health Education Policy (delivered through PHSE, R.S lessons, Citizenship, Assemblies and Health Days etc.) we aim to inform pupils/students of the uses and abuses of drugs and to discuss the pressures that they will come under to become involved in illegal drug taking.

We recognise that young people in society today will be likely at some stage to be offered drugs and have pressure put upon them. Our aim is to enable them to make sensible and informed decisions about their lives and to give them the confidence to stand by their decisions.

There is a confidential helpline, which can be used by students or their families, if there are any concerns or support is needed. www.talktofrank.com, telephone number 0300 123 6600.

Action

We recognise, however, that many young people will nonetheless experiment and feel that it is vital that they are able to talk to adults about this. It is important that adults are able to communicate and listen to pupils/students.

If a pupil/student is found in possession of any form of illegal drug they will be asked not to return to school until a full investigation has taken place. They will then be invited into school with parents to discuss the implications of their actions.

If a pupil/student has been supplying drugs for others it is likely that they would be asked not to return to school at all. However, for pupils/students who have become involved in a drug supply scenario through the actions of others it is accepted (in line with recent thinking) that such pupils/students need guidance and support and that continued exclusion is not necessarily the answer.

See also Exclusion Policy and Behaviour Management Policy.