



Hummingbird Learning Lab

ALCOHOL, SMOKING, DRUGS AND OTHER SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

This policy aims to provide a clear statement of HLL's approach to smoking, alcohol, drugs and other substance abuse. It covers the our approach to educating our students about such matters; our policy on the possession and consumption/use by students; the relationship between the school and parents; and the obligations attendant on both the school and parents as a consequence

Specific provisions in relation to smoking (including vaping), alcohol, drugs and other substance abuse are set out in Section 2.

Section 3 sets out provisions in relation to Confidentiality and the School's Two Strand (Pastoral and Disciplinary) approach to drug and alcohol related incidents.

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Definitions

Alcohol means intoxicating liquor of all descriptions (including beer, cider, wine and spirits) and this policy covers possession, consuming, and offering/supplying alcohol.

Smoking refers to the possession, use or offer/supply of tobacco and nicotine in all its forms, and includes cigarettes, vapes and other similar substitutes, and related paraphernalia such as pipes, lighters etc.

Drugs and Other Substances refers to the possession, use or offer/supply of controlled drugs (including illegal possession, use and supply of prescription drugs), and the paraphernalia of drugs or substances intended to resemble drugs, or "legal" drugs/highs which can be obtained over the counter or online, performance enhancing drugs, anabolic steroids, glue and psychoactive substances held or supplied for purposes of misuse.

Jurisdiction of this policy

This policy will apply to all students on the HLL school roll. It applies throughout the school day, whether on or off the school premises, and whenever in the care of HLL including when taking part in any school-organised or school-related activity such as trips and visits. It also applies to all students: when they are travelling to and from School and when they are in some way identifiable as a student at HLL (e.g. wearing identifying clothing). It may also apply in other circumstances when their conduct outside school could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school, poses a threat to another student or member of the public, or could adversely affect the reputation of the school.

Section 2

Smoking, Alcohol, Drugs/Substance Misuse

Smoking

- The school site is a non-smoking site.
- Students must not bring any smoking materials onto school premises.
- Students are not allowed to smoke or have any smoking materials in their possession in any circumstance where this policy may apply.
- Any infringement of these rules may result in a disciplinary sanction.

Alcohol

- Alcohol must not be brought into school.
- This policy applies in all respects on school trips. For the avoidance of doubt, this means that students are not allowed to consume alcohol while on any school trip either in the UK or abroad
- Any infringement of these rules, including students who are intoxicated on entry into school or found to be so during the school day or while under the School's care, may result in a serious disciplinary sanction.

Alcohol education

- We recognise that alcohol is not an illegal substance in itself (unless purchased by a child under the age of 18), and that it is generally considered to be socially acceptable when used in moderation; however, we also know that alcohol poses real dangers for young people. We seek to educate young people so that they can distinguish between acceptable and irresponsible drinking. The PSHE programme concerned specifically with alcohol recognises that alcohol is a drug, and that young people are particularly vulnerable to its effects.
- Specific aims of alcohol education at HLL:
 - • To educate students about the effects that alcohol has on the mind and body.
 - To help students understand the relationship between alcohol consumption and risks to health (including accident and long-term damage).
 - To understand the various reasons (social, cultural and religious) why people may choose to drink or not to drink.
 - To identify strategies for safer drinking.

- HLL is conscious of the need to educate its students in the responsible consumption of alcohol – including in relation to drink and driving – and believes that allowing students to decide, within their own moral and religious framework, to drink alcohol responsibly in the circumstances outlined below will enable it to achieve this aim. If, however, parents do have questions about the school's policy on alcohol, or wish to discuss any aspect of it, they should contact the Head Teacher

Drugs and Other Substance Misuse

- HLL operates a total ban on the possession, use or offer/supply of drugs and other substances.
- The school's total ban applies to all students in any circumstance where this policy may apply.
- Any infringement of these rules, including students who are under the influence of drugs or other substances on entry into school or found to be so during the school day, may result in a serious disciplinary consequence, including exclusion.

Substance Abuse Education

- We believe that the purpose of educating students about drugs and other substance abuse (and about smoking and alcohol) should be to give them the knowledge, skills and attitudes to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and to relate these to their own actions now and in the future.
- Members of our staff have a good understanding and knowledge of the types of substance abuse that our students are most likely to encounter and of their physiological effects.
- Substance abuse education takes place in PSHE lessons, delivered by experienced staff members and addressing the cognitive, social and emotional factors associated with drug use. On occasion specialist lectures and presentations may be offered. Other lessons, both within and outside the formal curriculum, in extracurricular activities and through the HLL pastoral system (e.g. morning meeting).
- All teaching staff are expected to be mindful of the effective management of incidents involving substance abuse, as part of their statutory duty to safeguard students. This includes being alert to the signs that suggest possible involvement and how to respond appropriately to students seeking advice and help. Periodic training is provided for all staff by means of briefings at staff in-service training.

Section 3

Confidentiality

- HLL regards all students as 'children' regardless of their age. Staff should remember that unconditional confidentiality cannot be promised to a student. If a teacher feels that a student is going to tell them something significant, or if a student requests in advance that nobody else be told, the member of staff will stress to the child that this may not be possible. If any member of staff judges that a student is at risk or in danger, they must talk to the HLL Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or another teacher with designated safeguarding or pastoral responsibilities.
- Parents of any students with any concerns about alcohol, drug or substance abuse-related matters will be encouraged to share their concerns with the school, in order they ensure the safety of their, or any other, child at school. It is important that

students (and their parents) feel able to report to the school any concerns about alcohol, drug or substance abuse-related matters; to that end, the school may keep the details of those reporting concerns confidential. The school may, if appropriate, pass on the content of reported concerns to the parents of any student allegedly involved in alcohol, drug or substance abuse-related matters, so that parents can take appropriate steps and measures to safeguard their child.

- HLL may also take its own steps in the light of concerns received, for example, discussions with the student identified, increased monitoring and vigilance surrounding that student, referral to external support services (e.g. counseling)

Our Disciplinary and Pastoral Approach

- HLL has a two-strand approach to drug and alcohol related incidents: disciplinary and pastoral. The school's approach will generally involve a disciplinary dimension and will also involve pastoral measures to support the students concerned. However, help without disciplinary intervention may be provided for any students genuinely seeking it as part of HLLs pastoral care provision.
- Any incident where a student is suspected of involvement with alcohol or drugs or other substances in breach of this policy will be dealt with promptly and will be reported to the Head Teacher and DSL or other member of the safeguarding team.
- The parents/carers of a student alleged to be involved with alcohol or drugs or other substances in breach of this policy can also expect to be informed at an early stage.
- Further deliberations will, at all times, seek to balance the interests of the students involved and those of the other members of the school community.
- Any student who is found to have offered (for sale or otherwise) drugs or other substances to other students or other people will usually be referred to the police and/or Social Services. Criminal law treats supplying (or intending to supply) illegal drugs extremely seriously, and 'dealing' includes giving drugs to friends, even if it is for free. Looking after drugs for someone and then giving them back can also lead to a charge of 'supplying' drugs. Drug-driving is also as illegal as drink-driving and carries the same penalties.

Useful Resources

FRANK

www.talktofrank.com

0300 123 6600 (helpline)

This support agency provides confidential advice 24 hours a day to parents as well as students. They can give information on services in the local area including counselling and specialist clinics.

ADFAM

www.adfam.org.uk

This is a charity aimed at supporting the families and friends of drug users.

Change Grow Live

www.changegrowlive.org

Directory of local services that can support with substance addiction.

Childline

www.childline.org.uk

0800 11 11 (helpline)

Free 24-hour helpline for children or young people in trouble or in danger.

Families Anonymous

www.famanon.org.uk

0207 4984 680 (Helpline)

A global fellowship of families and friends affected by another's abuse of substances – organises a network of support groups for parents of drug users.

MIND

A network of resources and contacts to support with drug and alcohol addiction.

Young Minds

www.youngminds.org.uk

0808 802 5544 (Parent helpline)

Free confidential helpline providing information and advice for any adult with concerns about the mental health of a young person.