



RICARDS LODGE HIGH SCHOOL

# Substance Misuse Policy

(PUBLISHED)

2021-2022

Ricards Lodge High School	
Date written/last review	June 2021
Approval level	Headteacher
Date of next review	June 2022
Add to website Y/N	Yes

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## *Definition*

In this document the word ‘drug’ is used to include all substances that affect the way the body functions physically, emotionally or mentally. It includes legal substances such as alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, volatile substances and over-the-counter and prescription medicines and illegal substances.

## *Aims and Objectives*

Ricards Lodge High School (RLHS) is committed to giving students the opportunity to explore moral, cultural, spiritual, personal and social issues. We aim to ensure that all students are well informed and confidently able to make appropriate choices in their lives and feel safe and comfortable in their learning. A positive culture of respect is created and this forms the basis of teaching and learning at RLHS, promoting our school values of Trust, Equality, Resilience and Aspiration.

RLHS condones neither the misuse of drugs by all members of the school, nor the illegal supply or distribution of any such substances.

Drugs education is a major component of drug prevention. Drug prevention aims to;

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

The aim of drug education at RLHS is to provide opportunities for students 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’ lifestyles. This includes:

- the rules and laws relating to drug use

- the short and long term effects and risks of drug use
- the impact of drugs on individuals, families and communities
- peer pressure and avoiding this
- how to seek advice
- addressing stereotypes
- analysing drugs and the media

## *The Role of Schools*

As part of the statutory duty schools should promote students' wellbeing and have a clear role to play in preventing drug misuse as part of their pastoral responsibilities. To support this, the Government's Reducing Demand Restricting Supply Building Recovery (2012) ensures that schools have the information, advice and power to:

- Provide accurate information on drugs through education and targeted information, including via the FRANK service;
- Tackle problem behaviour in schools, with wider powers of search and confiscation;
- Work with local voluntary organisations, health partners, the police and others to prevent drug or alcohol misuse.

## *Drugs Education*

Drugs education is delivered through the Science and Drama curriculum, and in the PSHE programme. Schemes of work are written and reviewed by the individual Head of Department, in consultation with teaching staff and students in line with national policies and emerging situations.

The following aspects are covered in PSHE lessons:

### **Year 7 – Healthy Lifestyles**

- What do I need to do to keep healthy?
- Drugs Awareness

### **Year 8 – Drugs**

- Types of drugs - FRANK
- Addiction

- Impact of drug taking on families and friends

## Year 9

- Peer Pressure conflicts
- Personal safety talks

## Year 10

- Attitudes to Drugs
- Smoking/Binge drinking
- Drug Facts Risky Behaviour

## RR6

- Well Being – Drug and alcohol education talk and activities by DSM Foundation
- Well Being – Drugs living away from home – Health issues
- Well Being – Under the Influence – Alcohol awareness

## Science Curriculum

### Year 7

- Body Systems topic
  - Cardiovascular fitness and disease.
  - Nervous system.
  - Immune system.
  - Vaccinations.
  - Fertilisation, hormones and contraception.

### Year 8

- Healthy Eating topic
  - Smoking, alcohol and drugs
  - Describing the effect of recreational drugs on health and behaviour

## Year 9

- AQA B3 topic: : Infection and Response
  - Vaccinations
  - Antibiotics and painkillers
  - Discovery and development of drugs
  - Clinical trials

## Year 10

- AQA B2 topic: Organisation
  - Coronary Heart Disease
  - Health Issues
  - The effect of lifestyle on non-communicable disease
  - Cancer
  - Clinical trials
- AQA B5 topic: Homeostasis and response
  - Nervous system - factors affecting the nervous system. Includes alcohol, recreational drugs and some medicines.

## Year 11

- AQA B5 topic: Homeostasis and response
  - Nervous system - factors affecting the nervous system. Includes alcohol, recreational drugs and some medicines.
  - The Brain
  - Control of glucose/insulin
  - Hormones in reproduction (IVF)
  - Contraception
  - Infertility treatment

## RR6

- **KS5 Biology**

- Origins of drugs and development
- Effect of smoking/alcohol on CVD
- Factors affecting the nervous system
- Radiotherapy - treating cancer
- **KS5 Chemistry**
  - Alcohols
  - Stereochemistry (drug development)
  - Thalidomide
  - Aspirin synthesis
  - Chromatographic analysis (e.g. of drugs)
  - Infrared spectroscopy and its uses (e.g. alcohol breathalyser analysis)
- **KS5 Physics**
  - Radiation/radiotherapy.
- **BTEC Applied Science**
  - Unit 1: Nerve impulses, neurotransmitters, drugs and ECGs.
  - Unit 8: Malnutrition/deficiency diseases and treatments.
  - Lymphatic and musculoskeletal systems and their associated diseases/treatments.
- **BTEC Health and Social Care**
  - Unit 1: Human Lifespan Development - Effects of peer pressure on social development.
  - Unit 14: Physiological disorders - Lifestyle choices; Drug misuse.

## Drama

- Year 10 and 11 - Students who study a Performing Arts subject at Key Stage 4 explore a wide variety of play texts. On occasion these contain references to substance misuse.

## *Staff support and Training*

Support and guidance is available to all staff via line managers or self referral.

## *Referral and External Support*

Students at risk or involved in drug use must be referred to the Inclusion Team. Any student who has put themselves at risk by substance misuse maybe referred to MASH and Catch 22 following an investigation and review.

Any student who is known to smoke/vape is referred to our school nurse for guidance and support.

## *The Management of Prescribed Medicines*

All prescribed medicines are to be held by and administered by the school office manager. No student should have any medicines on their person at any time including pain-killers, inhalers and over-the-counter substances.

If a student needs to bring a prescribed medicine to school, the following guidance must be adhered to:

- A letter from the parent explaining the nature of the illness and the dosage required must be sent with the student
- The medicine must be held in the medical room by the office manager
- Be part of the individual student care plan.

For all other medication needs please see Supporting Pupils in school with medical conditions policy.

## *The Management of Solvents*

Students are not permitted to bring solvents or aerosols into school. All members of staff are responsible for the safe storage and use of solvents in their classroom. Where possible these should be locked away when not in use. This includes white board markers, glue and paints. All staff and contractors must ensure that their stores are locked when not in use and that solvents are held in a secure place.



## *Safeguarding*

Our drugs education programme may lead to disclosure to staff or other adults. All staff must follow the RLHS Safeguarding policy and procedures and inform the DSL. Parents/Carers will be informed and involved in accordance with the Safeguarding policy.

## *Managing drug related incidents*

A drug incident involves the use of any substance whether legal or illegal that brings about a change in a student's emotional state, body functioning or behaviour within school. We retain the right to confiscate inappropriate items and do not have to return such items. We aim to keep the school updated responding to local and national drugs issues.

## *Responses Usual behaviour in school*

It is the duty of all members of staff to be alert to changes in behaviour or attitude or the obvious use of drugs e.g. smell of tobacco.

Suspicious should be notified to tutors on CPOMS immediately after the lesson.

Parents/Carers should always be notified about such suspicions. HOY/SLT and members or a member of the inclusion team must contact the parent/carer.

If the student's behaviour is more obvious and extreme the usual exit strategy procedures should be used and the office informed.

A first-aider should check the student to decide if any immediate medical intervention is needed.

Parents/Carers should be contacted immediately to collect their child and arrange any necessary medical intervention.

School sanctions arising from the behaviour may be taken in line with our policy.

Tutor or HOY and/or Inclusion Team will interview the student on return to ascertain the extent of the problem. The parent/carer may be asked to attend the interview. Support will be agreed and remain part of the return to school agreement.

If the behaviour has been more extreme and a larger sanction such as suspension has been used the interview will be held with the parents and student HOY and member of the leadership team. Again the extent of the situation will be explored, support identified and the consequences of further incidents explained. If the use of illegal substances is discovered the police will be informed.

## *Found in possession or under the influence of an illegal drug*

### Senior Staff Response

- take temporary possession of the illegal drug
- ensure that a second adult witness is present throughout
- seal the sample in a plastic bag and include details of the date and time of the seizure/find and witness present
- store it in a secure location, such as a safe or other lockable container with access limited to senior members of staff
- notify the police without delay, who will collect it and then store or dispose of it in line with locally agreed protocols. The law does not require a school to divulge to the police the name of the student from whom the drugs were taken but it is advisable to do so
- record full details of the incident, including the police incident reference number
- inform parents/carers, unless this is not in the best interests of the student
- identify any safeguarding concerns and develop a support and disciplinary response.

### Response to the possessions of illegal drugs

The school will complete an investigation and determine the most appropriate course of action in line with school policies eg behaviour for learning.

Should the exclusion be permanent, normal procedures for exclusions will be followed.

A record of drug related incidents will be kept and used as part of the review and evaluation of the effectiveness of the drugs education programme (Appendix 1).

If a child discloses that parents/carers are abusing substances which may impact on the welfare of the student then all staff must follow the Safeguarding Policy and inform the DSL.

## *Links with other policies*

- PSHE and SRE Policy
- Behaviour for Learning Policy
- Equality policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Safeguarding and child protection Policy
- Supporting Pupils with medical conditions in school

**Review Policy:** Annually or as the curriculum/policy develops

**Updated:** 2021

**Written:** Alison Jerrard/Harriet Dukes/Natalija Bloom

## *Record of Drug-Related Incident Form*

<b>Report Completed by:</b>						
<b>Date of incident:</b>				<b>Time of incident:</b>		

Emergency/ Intoxication	Suspicion, OFF premises	Suspicion, ON premises	Discovery, OFF premises	Discovery, ON premises	Student Disclosure	Parent/Carer expresses concern
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<b>Name of Student:</b>
<b>Tutor Group:</b>

Was first aid given:	Yes	No
If Yes, by whom:		
Was an Ambulance/GP called?	Yes	No
If Yes, by whom:		

Drug/s involved (if known):		
Sample found?	Yes	No
If Yes:		
Where was it retained?		
or		
Was it destroyed?		
If Yes, at what time:		am/pm
Witness Name:		

Parent/Carer informed:	Yes	No
Name of Senior Member of Staff involved:		

Brief description of symptoms/situation:
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Support Offered: (e.g. other agency involved; Ed Psych, sanction imposed, GP/Police consulted/informed.)
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## *Reference list*

[Drugs strategy \(2010\)](#)

[DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools \(2012\)](#)