



The Grange School and Sports College Policy Document



1. **Title:**

Drug, Alcohol and Substance Misuse Policy

2. **Purpose:**

To clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities of the school including the school's approach to drugs for all staff, students, Governors, parents/carers, external agencies and the wider community.

3. **Aims:**

- Reinforce and safeguard the health and safety of students and others who use the school
- Give guidance on developing, implementing and monitoring the drug education programme
- Enable staff to manage drugs on school premises and any incidents that occur, with confidence and consistency and in the best interests of those involved
- Ensure that the response to incidents involving drugs complements the overall approach to drug education and the values and ethos of the school
- Respond to any individual within the school community in need of support
- Provide a basis for evaluating the effectiveness of the school drug education programme and the management of incidents involving illegal and other unauthorised drugs
- Reinforce the role of the school in contributing to local and national strategies
- Establish an atmosphere/environment/situation in which the school is free from the misuse of any drugs.

4. **Policy:**

- This school believes we should be a drug free community. Illegal or illicit substances should not be brought into school and use or supply of drugs on the school premises will be regarded with the utmost seriousness.
- The school will decide when and if to inform the Police (in accordance with Police guidelines). The School Drug Advisor will be informed of all of Drug Related incidents and records kept using the attached flow chart and incident form.
- Evidence of drug use by a student or possession of a substance will not necessarily result in automatic exclusion. Each case will be assessed and different levels of sanctions will be used according to the seriousness of the incident and the student's involvement. Avon and Somerset Police guidance 2008 indicates 'There is no legal obligation on schools or colleges to inform the Police about drug related incidents or to disclosure

the name of a student involved in a drug incident on their premises, the main priority of the school will be to ensure that they keep the child included and engaged and not excluded. South Gloucestershire summary of actions will provide guidance on when the Police should be involved.

- The misuse of illegal drugs, prescription medicines or problem drinking by staff should be regarded as a health matter rather than an immediate case for disciplinary action. (DfES now DCSF) guidance 2004 page 123.

Confidentiality

School staff should be made aware that they cannot and should not promise total confidentiality. If a student discloses information which is sensitive, not generally known and which the student asks not to be passed on, the request should be honoured unless unavoidable in order for teachers to fulfil their professional responsibility in relation to:

Child protection; cooperating with a Police investigation, referral to external services.

Every effort should be made to secure the students agreement to the way in which the school intends to use any sensitive information. If confidentiality needs to be broken the student should be informed first and school should endeavour to explain why this needs to happen.

Advice and Support for Students

Information about local drugs and support services will be provided for students and parents but staff of the school will not give individual advice to students about their personal drug use. There are a number of staff within school who have been trained to undertake 'screening of drug use'. The school drug related incident coordinator will have details of who these staff are, and will include the school health nurse and Connexions Personal Advisor. All young people can be referred to South Gloucestershire's Young Peoples Drug and Alcohol Service on 01454 868763 for advice, information, support and counselling.

Drug Education

Drug education in this school aims to enable all our students to make healthy informed choices by increasing their knowledge, exploring a range of attitudes about drug use and developing and practising their decision making skills. It will also enable students to identify sources of confidential advice and support as school staff are unable to guarantee absolute confidentiality in serious cases of drug misuse.

5. Relationship to other Policies:

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Behaviours for Learning Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Health and Safety Policy

6. Monitoring, Review and Evaluation:

The monitoring of the implementation of this policy will be the responsibility of:

- Deputy Headteacher (Student Achievement and Welfare) in consultation with the SLT, Governors, students and personnel committee.

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

7. The bodies consulted in the development and future revision of this policy

- DCFS
- South Glos. Young People's Drug and Alcohol Service

8. Implementation and Monitoring of the Policy

The implementation and monitoring of this Policy will be the responsibility of the Deputy Head (Student achievement and welfare) and should be reviewed bi-annually.

The purpose of reviewing the effectiveness of this Policy is:

- To ensure that this Policy is working and is of value
- To actively work to maintain a safe environment for all
- To check that the correct (updated) procedures are followed at all times and they are effective
- To ensure students are fully supported following the above procedures

Adopted by Full Governing Body on: February 2010

Review Date: February 2011