

Drug and Substance Misuse Policy

Beverley High School



Date: November 2014
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This policy document is available in a variety of formats in line with the Equality Act 2010. It is available as a hard copy from the School Office or can be found on the school website at www.beverleyhigh.net

A Safeguarding Policy

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Introduction

The Governors and Staff of Beverley High School fully recognise the importance of safeguarding children and play a full and active part in protecting pupils from harm. In developing the Drug & Substance Misuse Policy due consideration has been given to Beverley High School 's Child Protection and Safeguarding Children Policy and East Riding Safeguarding Children Board (ERSCB) Procedures.

Linked Documents

This document must be read in conjunction with:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Children Policy.
- Pupil Behaviour and School Discipline Policy.
- Health and Safety Policy.
- Educational Visits and Activities Policy.
- Sex Relationship Education Policy.
- First Aid Policy and Procedures.
- Intimate Care Policy.
- Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions Policy and Procedures.
- DfE and ACPO Drug Advice for Schools, Jan 2012(non statutory) DfE- 00001-2012
- DfE: Screening, Searching and Confiscation. Advice for Headteachers,School Staff and Governing Bodies. Feb 2014. DFE-00034-2014.
- DfE: Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions. Statutory guidance for governing bodies of maintained schools and proprietors of academies in England. Sept 2014. DFE-00393-2014.
- DfE : Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHEE): Personal Wellbeing Programme – Programme of Study Key Stage 3 & 4.
- HM Government: National Drug Strategy 2010 Reducing Demand, Restricting Supply, Building Recovery: Supporting People to Live a Drug Free Life.
- HM Government: Drugs Strategy Documents-July 2013.
- Drugs: Guidance for Schools (DfES Spring 2004) (superseded but still a source of valuable information)

School Ethos

Beverley High School believes that our school should provide a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment which promotes the social, physical, emotional and moral development of each individual pupil.

The school plays an important role in supporting and promoting attitudes, practices and encouraging pupils to make informed decisions to enable them to make healthy lifestyle choices. We therefore strive to create an atmosphere in which pupils feels safe and able to discuss problems and concerns whilst developing an understanding of drugs and their use and misuse.

Definition

A drug is a substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave.

The term 'drugs' and 'drug education', unless otherwise stated, is used throughout this document to refer to all drugs:

- All illegal drugs (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971) - see **Appendix 1**.
- All legal drugs, including alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances and new psychoactive substances (previously referred to as legal highs)
- All over-the-counter and prescription medicines.

Beverley High School's Perspective on Drugs, Health and the Needs of Pupils

The possession, use or supply of illegal and other unauthorised drugs within school boundaries is unacceptable.

Illegal drugs and other substances harmful to health e.g. alcohol have no place in schools.

However the school recognises that there are occasions where other drugs may legitimately be in schools - see:

- Prescribed Medicines – see Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions Policy and Procedures.
- Non-prescribed medicines – see Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions Policy and Procedures.
- Volatile substances – must be securely stored to prevent inappropriate access or use - see Health and Safety Policy.
- The consumption of alcohol is not permitted on school premises unless permission is given by the school governors for a special event or occasion. The arrangements for storage and consumption of alcohol must be agreed and adhered to.
- Tobacco – The school has adopted East Riding of Yorkshire Council Non-Smoking Policy.

In every case of an incident involving drugs, the school's priority is the health and safety of the pupils and staff, meeting any medical emergency with first aid and summoning appropriate help before addressing further issues.

Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of this Drug and Substance Misuse Policy is to:

- Clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities of the school
- Reinforce and safeguard the health and safety of pupils and others who use the school
- Explain the school's approach to drugs for all staff, pupils, governors, parents/carers, external agencies and the wider community
- Enable staff to manage drug-related issues 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 and substance misuse education and the values of the school

When this Policy Applies

This policy applies to all staff, pupils, parents/carers, governors and partner agencies. This includes:

- Journeys to and from school.
- Journeys in school time.
- During the school day.
- Work experience.
- Day and Residential trips.
- Those pupils educated in further education or other provision.

Staff Conduct and Drugs

- Tobacco – Non Smoking Policy.
- Alcohol – There should be no consumption of alcohol by any member of staff while they have care of a children /young people.
- Staff misuse/abuse of drugs or illegal substances – if this is known or suspected the appropriate East Riding Of Yorkshire Council Policy and Procedures should be followed.

Staff with Key Responsibility for Drugs and Substance Misuse Issues

The designated senior member of staff with overall responsibility for all drug and substance misuse issues within the school is the Headteacher including the management of drug incidents in accordance with the procedure laid out in this policy. In the first instance these incidents will be dealt with by the Well Being Team and the Assistant Head Teacher, Student Engagement.

The Headteacher delegates the planning and co-ordination of drug and substance misuse education to the Head of Wellbeing (PSHEE).

The Child Protection Coordinators are responsible for ensuring that any safeguarding concerns are addressed and managed effectively.

All staff should be fully aware of the policy and procedures for managing drug related incidents.

The Role of Governors

As part of their general responsibilities for the strategic direction of the school, governors have a key role to play in the development of the school's policy on drugs in particular those on the Safeguarding and Pupil Wellbeing Governors Sub Committee. In line with current good practice a governor will be appointed with specific responsibilities relating to the provision of drug and substance misuse education and policy development. Governors should be well informed of drug incidents that affect the school. The designated governor will also contribute to any drug-related exclusions or appeals.

Involvement of Parents/Carers

The school will ensure that parents/carers are:

- Made aware of the school's approach and rationale for drug and substance misuse education, for example, through the school prospectus and website.
- Made aware of what the school terms prohibited and banned items in Pupil Behaviour and School discipline Policy. These are listed on page 3 of DfE: Screening, Searching and Confiscation. Advice for Headteachers, School Staff and Governing Bodies and within the Pupil Behaviour and School Discipline Policy.
- Made aware that school staff can undertake searches without their consent if appropriate as per: DfE: Screening, Searching and Confiscation. Advice for Headteachers, School Staff and Governing Bodies. Feb 2014.
- Involved in the planning and review of the drug and substance misuse education programme and policy, for example, through questionnaires, newsletters and parental consultation.
- Given information about their child's drug and substance misuse education and school rules in relation to drugs, for example, through newsletters.
- Signposted to appropriate local and national sources of help and information.

In any incident involving illegal and other unauthorised drugs the school will involve the parents/carers, unless this would jeopardise the pupil's safety or an ongoing police investigation.

Drug Related Incidents

The school's response to drug related incidents is most effective when supported by the whole school community this should include a full understanding of what it meant by the term drug related incidents and procedures that must be followed in terms of the school policies and the law. Drug related incidents can include one or more of the following:

- Drugs or associated paraphernalia found on school premises.
- A pupil who vocally demonstrates an inappropriate level of knowledge about drugs and substance misuse in front of their peers or members of staff.
- A pupil found in possession of drugs or associated paraphernalia.
- A pupil found to be supplying drugs on school premises (friends sharing drugs/pupil being coerced to supply drugs, a group of friends taking it in turn to bring drugs in for their own use)
- A pupil, parent/carer or staff member who is believed to be under the influence of drugs on the school premises.
- A staff member, pupil, parent/ carer has information that the illegitimate sale or supply of drugs is taking place on the school premises or in the local area.
- A pupil discloses that they or a family member/friend are misusing drugs.

Schools Response to Drug Related Incidents

In every case of an incident involving drugs, the school will place the utmost priority on the safety of the young person and those around them, meeting any medical emergencies with first aid support and summoning appropriate medical assistance help before addressing further issues.

Staff should follow **Managing Medical Emergencies –Appendix 2**.

In the event of a pupil requiring emergency medical treatment parents should be informed as soon as possible.

If it is believed that a pupil is under the influence of drugs in school they must be removed from the classroom immediately and placed under the care of the Wellbeing Team. First aid advice will be sought and if appropriate an ambulance will be summoned and parents informed.

If it is believed that a young person is in possession of drugs, the Headteacher can instruct school staff to screen and search a pupil and confiscate any prohibited item or substance found. School staff must adhere to the DfE document: Screening, Searching and Confiscation. Advice for Headteachers, School Staff and Governing Bodies (Feb 2014) when investigating the incident further.

In summary if the incident occurs on the school premises:

- A member of the Wellbeing Team (in most cases, the school will seek to ensure two members of staff are present) should make every effort to persuade the pupil to hand over voluntarily any drugs. Where the child/young person refuses and the drug is believed to be illegal and the school wishes to proceed along formal lines, then the police must be called.
- The pupils consent should always be sought prior to any search for a prohibited item (See : page 3 of DfE: Screening, Searching and Confiscation .Advice for Headteachers, School Staff and Governing Bodies and the Pupil Behaviour and School Discipline Policy for the comprehensive list of prohibited items) by a member of staff and where possible they should be present during the search.

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- Where pupils consent is refused, the school will in, most cases notify parents/carers who may be able to persuade their child to give consent. However, if they refuse to give consent the school are able to undertake the search. The Headteacher and authorised staff have a statutory power to search pupils or their possessions without consent, where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil may have a prohibited item, this includes illegal drugs and alcohol. The extent of any search can include clothes, possessions, this includes goods over which the pupil appears to have control this includes lockers and bags.
- Searches must be undertaken by a member of staff (usually this will be a member of the Wellbeing Team) of the same sex as the pupil being searched, there must be a witness (also a staff member) again if possible they should be the same sex as the pupil.
- A search of a pupil by a member of staff of the opposite sex staff and without a witness can take place where there is a risk that serious harm will be caused to a person if the school do not conduct the search immediately.
- Personal searches can involve the removal of outer clothing and searching of pockets only. The police can conduct an intimate personal search if they believe a crime has taken place, or to prevent harm to themselves or others following an arrest.
- After any search involving pupils, in most cases, the school, regardless of whether the result of the search is positive or negative, will contact parents/carers.
- There is no legal requirement for the school to make a record of the search but in line with school procedures details of the incident will be logged in the pupil's file.
- Any safeguarding concerns must be identified and if appropriate the Child Protection Coordinators will make a referral to Children and Young Peoples Safeguarding and Support Services via the Golden Number.
- The Headteacher will consider whether any disciplinary procedures/sanctions are to be undertaken in consultation with key staff and Governors.
- Searches (including those without consent) can only be carried out on the school premises or elsewhere when a member of school staff has lawful control or charge of the pupil e.g. school trips. In such circumstances the trip leader will ensure that the correct procedures are followed.

Police Involvement

Legal Drugs

The police will not expect to be routinely involved in incidents involving legal drugs. Nevertheless, not informing the police about suspected drug incidents in school may prove to be counter-productive for the school and wider community. Beverley High School will share relevant information with the Beverley Neighbourhood Community Policing Team (01482 597811) including where the school suspects the sale or supply of tobacco, alcohol or volatile substances to pupils in the local area.

New Psychoactive Drugs

Young people are becoming increasingly aware of and in some case using new Psychoactive Substances (NPS). These are designed to mimic the effect of illegal drugs but are structurally different enough to avoid being classified under the misuse of drugs act.

Despite being labelled as legal these substances are not always safe to use and often contain controlled drugs making them illegal to possess. They should be regarded as unauthorised substances in school and if there is any uncertainty about what the substance is it should be treated by school staff as a controlled drug and the Police should be informed.

Controlled (Illegal) Drugs

The police must be notified without delay when there are any incidents involving suspected illegal drugs as identified in the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 - **Appendix 1**

In taking temporary possession of suspected illegal drugs prior to the arrival of the police, the school will:

- Ensure that a second adult witness is present throughout the process.
- Ask the pupil to hand over voluntarily any drugs
- Ensure the pupil is made aware of reasons for any search of their property, they can be asked to remove outer clothing and their pockets can be searched.
- Seal any substance in a plastic bag and include details of the date and time of the seizure/find and witness present
- Store in secure location, such as the school safe or other lockable container with access limited to relevant members of staff.
- Without delays notify the police, they will collect the confiscated substance. The law does not require a school to divulge to the police the name of the pupil from whom the drugs were taken but it is advisable to do so.
- Confirm with the police what information they are happy for school to share with the parents/carers. There may be occasions when sharing all the information available would jeopardise the role of the police and any subsequent investigation.

Disposal of Drug Paraphernalia

Needles or syringes found on school premises should be placed in a 'sharps bin' using gloves by the Site Manager or Caretakers.

Parents/Carers under the Influence of Drugs on School Premises

When dealing with parents/carers under the influence of drugs on school premises, staff should attempt to maintain a calm atmosphere. If a situation arises, where a member of the school staff has concerns about discharging a pupil into the care of their parent or carer, they should discuss this with the Headteacher/Child Protection Coordinators in the first instance. If an amicable arrangement cannot be made between parties, then the focus for school staff will always be the maintenance of the child's personal protection and welfare, as opposed to the parent's/carer's wishes.

Where the behaviour of a parent/carer under the influence of drugs repeatedly places a child at risk or the parents/carer becomes abusive or violent, staff should consider whether to invoke child protection procedures and/or involve the police.

Signposting for Pupils/Parents

The school will ensure that pupils and parents have access to up-to-date information on sources of help. Local and national help lines including 'Talk to Frank' and NHS Smoking Helpline, **see Appendix 3**. Youth and Family Support Services and School Health Services will be displayed in school to enable those pupils in need of help and who are reluctant to approach school staff to easily access information. Drug and substance misuse education programmes will also include details of services and helplines, explain how they work and develop pupil confidence in using them.

Referral and External Support

If the need for referral arises - possible agencies include:

- Children and Young Peoples Safeguarding and Support Services
- Youth and Family Support Service
- GP
- School Health Service
- Specialist Drug Services

Confidentiality

School staff cannot and should not promise confidentiality. The boundaries of confidentiality should be made clear to the whole school community. If the pupil discloses information which they ask not to be shared, the member of staff in question should point out to the pupil that this may not be possible and should fulfil their professional responsibilities in relation to:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Co-operating with a police investigation
- Referral to external agencies.

Information will be shared only on a need to know basis.

Investigation of Drug Related Incidents and Outcomes

Following any drug related incident in school a careful investigation will be undertaken in order to establish the nature and seriousness of each incident, the needs of those involved and the most appropriate response. For example:

- What does the pupil have to say?
- Is this a one-off incident or longer-term situation?
- Is the drug legal or illegal?
- What quantity of the drug was involved?
- What was the pupil's motivation?
- What are the pupil's home circumstances?
- Does the pupil know and understand the school policy and school rules?
- If supply of illegal drugs is suspected, how much was supplied, and was the pupil coerced into the supply role, were they 'the one whose turn it was' to buy for others, or is there evidence of organised or habitual supply?

Accurate records of the incident should be maintained, any comments made by the pupil should be recorded verbatim. It is important for all concerned to be aware that the incident could have legal implications

If during the course of the investigation the school decides that the police should be involved then the school should cease its own investigation immediately to enable the police to conduct a full detailed enquiry. Once the police have been informed, the school will seek the agreement of the police to continue its own investigation

When evaluating Behaviour and Safety under the new Ofsted Inspection Framework, Inspectors will consider the pupil's ability to assess and manage risk appropriately and to keep themselves safe. With this in mind any response from the school should balance the needs of the individual with those of the wider school community and aim to provide pupils with the opportunity to learn from their mistakes and develop as individuals.

Exclusion should not be an automatic response to a drug related incident and each case will be considered on an individual basis. However the supply of illegal drugs is always regarded as extremely serious and any pupil concerned in such supply will be at risk of permanent exclusion.

Other responses could include:

- Early intervention and targeted prevention.
- Completion of the Common Assessment Framework.
- Completion of the Substance Misuse Toolkit.
- Referral to external agencies e.g. School Health Team (NHS) or Youth and Family Support Services,
- Behaviour Support Plans
- Pastoral Support Programmes
- Fixed-term exclusion
- Alternative Learning provision e.g. Local Authority Alternative Learning Package
- Permanent exclusion

Some responses may serve to enforce and reinforce school rules. Any sanctions will always be justifiable in terms of:

- The seriousness of the incident
- The identified need of the pupil and the wider school community
- Consistency with published school rules, codes and expectations
- Consistency with disciplinary action for breaches of other school rules (such as theft, violence, bullying)

Drug and Substance Misuse Education

Drug and substance misuse 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 caused by drugs
- Enable those who have concerns about drugs to seek support and help.

The aim of drug and substance misuse education is to provide 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.

Drug and substance misuse education in Beverley High School provides opportunity for pupils to:

Increase their knowledge, understanding and clarify misconceptions about:

- The short- and long-term effects and risks of drugs use
- The rules and laws relating to drugs
- The impact of drugs on individuals, families and communities
- The prevalence and acceptability of drug use among peers
- The complex moral, social and political issues surrounding drugs

Develop their personal and social skills to make informed decisions and keep themselves safe and healthy, including:

- Assessing, avoiding and managing risk
- Communicating effectively
- Resisting pressures
- Finding information, help and advice
- Devising problem solving and coping strategies
- Developing self awareness and self esteem

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- Enabling them to explore their own and other people's attitudes towards drugs, drug use and drug users, including challenging stereotypes, and exploring media and social influences

Drug and substance misuse education in the curriculum:

- Drug and substance misuse education is an entitlement for every pupil and is supported by Section 351, of the Education Act 1996 which requires every school to provide a balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at school and in society
- Prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life

Drug and substance misuse education is delivered through:

- The non-statutory PSHEE programmes of study at KS3 and KS4
- The statutory citizenship programme of study at KS3 and KS4
- The statutory national curriculum for Science at all phases

External agencies with specialist training in drugs and substance misuse will be utilised wherever possible to support the PSHEE programme.

Issues considered when planning:

- Provision is made for vulnerable pupils by assessing individual needs and working with external agencies to give the correct support
- Drug and substance misuse education for those pupils with special educational needs is designed to be appropriate to their level of understanding

Staff Support and Training

All school staff should have general drug awareness and a good understanding of the school drug and other related policies. This should include first steps in managing drug related incidents and identifying and responding to pupils' needs.

Assessment, Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

Assessment

The elements of drug and substance misuse education that form part of the science curriculum are assessed in accordance with the requirement of the national curriculum. Learning from the other elements of drug and substance misuse education will also be assessed as part of overall PSHE provision and is in line with Government guidance on PSHE Personal Well-being Programme Key stages 3 and 4.

Assessment should identify:

- Pupil's knowledge and understanding of drugs and substance misuse and its relevance to them
- Skills pupils have developed to make informed choices
- How pupils' feelings and attitudes have been influenced during the programme

Assessment should include:

- Assessment for learning – pupils' review and reflection on their progress
- Assessment of learning – measuring what pupils know and understand about drugs and substance misuse

Progress and achievement in drug and substance misuse education forms part of the Wellbeing section of the school's annual report to parents/carers.

Monitoring

The school monitors the quality, relevance and effectiveness of the drug and substance misuse education programme. The Headteacher delegates the responsibility for the overall monitoring of drug and substance misuse education to the Head of PSHEE.

This monitoring includes:

- Lesson observations with feedback to teachers
- Looking at a sample of pupils work
- Teachers providing regular feedback on the scheme of work/Well Being Days Feedback from Head of Wellbeing(PSHE), Year Leaders, class teachers and pupils about what has been covered
- Including drug and substance misuse education as a regular agenda item at Wellbeing Team and Governor meetings in particular at the Safeguarding and Pupil Wellbeing Governors Sub Committee Meetings
- Evaluation by pupils and staff will take place after delivery of each Well Being Day

Changes to the drug and substance misuse education provision – possibly in response to changing local needs, will be implemented when and where appropriate.

Review

Drug and substance misuse education provision will be reviewed on a regular basis in line with current government guidance and the law relating to drugs.

Date: October 2014

Review: October 2015

Appendix 1: The Misuse of Drugs Act 1971

This act is intended to prevent the non-medical use of certain drugs. For this reason it controls not just medicinal drugs (which will also be in the Medicines Act) but also drugs with no current medical uses. Offences under this Act overwhelmingly involve the general public, and even when the same drug and a similar offence are involved, penalties are far tougher. Drugs subject to this Act are known as 'controlled' drugs. The law defines a series of offences, including unlawful supply, intent to supply, import or export (all these are collectively known as 'trafficking' offences), and unlawful production. The main difference from the Medicines Act is that the Misuse of Drugs Act also prohibits unlawful possession. To enforce this law the police have the special powers to stop, detain and search people on 'reasonable suspicion' that they are in possession of a controlled drug.

The laws controlling drug use are complicated and New Psychoactive Substances (previously referred to as Legal Highs) which are substances that mimic the effects of illegal drugs such as ecstasy and speed are not controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act. However recent changes have been made to the availability of many of these drugs, making it illegal to sell them without a legitimate license under the control of the Medicines Act.

The government can ban new drugs for 1 year under a 'temporary banning order' while they decide how drugs should be classified. School staff will liaise with police and other agencies to ensure they are fully aware of any drugs that may be under a temporary banning order.

The Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) regulates what are termed controlled (Illegal) drugs. It divides drugs into three classes as follows:

Class A:

These include, cocaine and crack (a form of cocaine), ecstasy, heroin, LSD, methadone, methamphetamine (crystal meth), magic mushrooms containing ester of psilocin and NBOME compounds (potent hallucinogens) plus any Class B drug which is injected, such as, for example, amphetamine.

Class B:

These include amphetamine (not methamphetamine which is class A), barbiturates, codeine and cannabis.

Class C:

These include anabolic steroids, sedatives, minor tranquillisers and some pain relief medication (Tramadol)

Class A drugs are treated by the law as the most dangerous.

Offences under the Misuse of Drugs Act can include:

- Possession of a controlled drug.
- Possession with intent to supply another person.
- Production, cultivation or manufacture of controlled drugs.
- Supplying another person with a controlled drug.
- Offering to supply another person with a controlled drug.
- Import or export of controlled drugs.

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- Allowing premises you occupy or manage to be used for the consumption of certain controlled drugs (smoking of cannabis or opium but not use of other controlled drugs) or supply or production of any controlled drug.

Certain controlled drugs such as amphetamines, barbiturates, methadone, minor tranquillisers and occasionally heroin can be obtained through a legitimate doctor's prescription. In such cases their possession is not illegal.

The law is even more complicated by the fact that some drugs are covered by other laws, are not covered at all or treated in an exceptional way under the Misuse of Drugs Act.

Alcohol is not illegal for an over 5 year old to consume away from licensed premises. It is an offence for a vendor to knowingly sell to an under 18 year old. A 14 year old can go into a pub alone but not consume alcohol. A 16 year old can buy and consume beer, port, cider or perry (but not spirits) in a pub if having a meal in an area set aside for this purpose. In some areas there are by laws restricting drinking of alcohol on the streets at any age. Police also have powers to confiscate alcohol from under 18s who drink in public places.

GHB (gammahydroxybutyrate) is a colourless, odourless liquid which comes in a small bottle and has sedative and euphoric effects. It is controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act so possession is an offence.

Ketamine usually comes as a powder. The initial rush is usually followed by feelings of dissociation and an anaesthetic type experience. It is commonly used as an animal tranquilliser and for surgery on animals.

Khat is a plant that is grown in eastern Africa and the Arabian peninsula. Chewing the leaves has a stimulant effect. Some Khat is imported to the UK and sold in greengrocers, specialist health food shops and some 'head' shops. The Khat plant (the main form in which khat is sold) is not covered under the Misuse of Drugs Act and possession or supply is not an offence.

Magic mushrooms are now a Class A drug under the Drugs Act 2005. "fungus (of any kind) which contains psilocin or an ester of psilocin". This does not include Fly Agaric which is still legal.

Poppers (liquid gold, amyl or butyl nitrite) are not covered by the MDA and are not illegal to possess or buy. They are often sold in joke and sex shops but also in some pubs clubs, tobacconists and sometimes music or clothes shops used by young people. Though not fully tested in court, the Medicines Control Agency has stated that poppers is regarded by them as a medicine and so falls under the Medicines Act 1968. This allows only licensed outlets, such as chemists, to sell the drug.

Solvents (aerosols, gases, glues etc.) are not illegal to possess, use or buy at any age. In England and Wales it is an offence for a shopkeeper to sell them to an under 18 year old if they know they are to be used for intoxicating purposes. The Government has extended this legislation to make it illegal for shopkeepers to sell lighter fuel (butane) to under 18s whether or not they know it will be used for intoxicating purposes. This law came into force on 1st Oct 1999, although it was not an 'extension' to the Intoxicating Substances Supply Act, but an amendment to the Consumer Protection Act

Anabolic Steroids are controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act as class C drugs but their legal status is complicated. In most situations the possession offence is waived meaning that

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people who possess or use steroids without a prescription are unlikely to be prosecuted. However, in some areas of the UK police have successfully prosecuted people for possession of steroids when the steroids have not been in the form of a medicinal product. It is always an offence to sell or supply steroids to another person. People can also be prosecuted for possession with intent to supply if they have large quantities of steroids without a prescription for them.

Tobacco It is not an offence for people of any age to use cigarettes or tobacco products. It is an offence to sell tobacco products to someone they know to be under 18 years old.

Minor Tranquillisers (librium, valium etc) are controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act as Class C drugs but the possession offence is waived so that it is not illegal to possess or use them without a prescription. It is an offence to sell or supply them to another person. The exception is temazepam and rohypnol tranquilisers which are illegal to be in possession of without a prescription.

Maximum penalties under the Misuse of Drugs Act are as follows:

Drug class	Possession	Supply
Class A	7 years + fine	Life + fine
Class B	5 years + fine	14 years + fine
Class C	2 years + fine	14 years +

Appendix 2: Managing Medical Emergencies

A person who is unconscious, having trouble breathing, seriously confused or disoriented and is believed to have taken a harmful toxic substance, should be responded to as an emergency as they may be at risk of significant harm. The main responsibility of staff is for the pupil at immediate risk, but they must also ensure the well-being and safety of others is considered.

A First Aider should be summoned immediately who will assess the situation. Emergency services must be summoned if there are any concerns about the condition of the person who has taken the substance.

If the person is conscious:

- ask them what has happened and to identify any drug use
- collect any drug sample and any vomit for medical analysis
- do not induce vomiting
- **do not** chase or over-excite them if intoxicated from inhaling a volatile substance
- remain with them ,keep them under observation, warm and quiet
- inform parents/carer

If the person is unconscious:

- ensure that they can breathe and place in the recovery position
- do not move them if a fall is likely to have led to spinal or other serious injury which may not be obvious
- do not give anything by mouth
- do not attempt to make them sit or stand
- do not leave them unattended or in the charge of another pupil
- inform parents/carer

For needle stick (sharps) injuries:

- encourage the wound to bleed (Do not suck), wash with soap and water, dry and apply waterproof dressing
- if used/dirty needle seek advice from a doctor

When medical help arrives

- Pass on any information available, including vomit and any drug samples
- Record the incident as soon as possible after the emergency has been dealt with.

Appendix 3: Useful organisations

Addaction – one of the UK’s largest specialist drug and alcohol treatment charities. They can provide services specifically tailored to the needs of young people and their parents.
www.addaction.org.uk

ADFAM- a charity offering information to the families of drug and alcohol users. The website has a database of local family support services
www.adfam.org.uk

Alcohol concern – a charity which aims to reduce the incidence and costs of alcohol related harm.
www.alcoholconcern.org.uk

ASH(Action on Smoking and Health) a campaigning public health charity aiming to reduce the health problems related to smoking
www.ash.org

Drinkaware – an independent charity that promotes responsible drinking.
www.drinkaware.co.uk

Talk to Frank – an independent government funded website which provides information on drugs and alcohol . Confidential advice is offered 1.1 via the interactive areas on the website.
www.talktofrank.com