

DRUG & ALCOHOL
March 2022
Review March 2024



The aim of a Drug and Alcohol Misuse Policy is to acknowledge and clarify LME's role in drug prevention. This policy provides information about how to respond to any drug-related incident.

LME has a statutory duty to promote pupils' wellbeing and hence have a clear role in preventing drug misuse as part of their pastoral care. It is essential to protect staff, parent/carer(s) and children and young people.

LME has a strict no smoking policy in or on the premises when children are present or about to be present. This includes offsite trips and visits. Furthermore, practitioners must not be under the influence of alcohol or other substances.

Drugs refers to medicines, volatile substances, alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, other unauthorised substances and New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) often referred to as 'Legal Highs'. 'Drugs' here are taken to mean those that are legal, such as alcohol, tobacco and solvents, over the counter and prescribed drugs, and illegal drugs such as cannabis, ecstasy, amphetamines, heroin, crack/cocaine, LSD, etc.

It is inappropriate and unacceptable for pupils to bring substances into LME premises, have them on their person, consume them before, during and after LME sessions, including on visits etc.

The possession and/or use of drugs while in attendance at LME is not tolerated. The drugs/substances covered by this policy are not to be bought, sold or otherwise exchanged, brought onto the premises or while on school visits. Individual exceptions may be made for pupils who require prescription medicines where appropriate.

Where there is evidence or suspicion that a pupil has drugs, has used drugs or has passed on drugs to another person, LME will follow its Behaviour Policy. Referring schools will be alerted promptly.

Where it is believed that a parent or carer is under the influence of drugs on the premises, they will be asked to leave. If a parent or carer refuses to leave, LME will call the police.

LME will share information with relevant schools, law enforcement agencies and safeguarding agencies as required.

All LME staff are required to adhere to the Staff Code of Conduct.

Situations requiring first aid will be dealt with immediately by qualified First Aiders.

All LME staff should understand the limits of confidentiality, balancing the desire to maintain confidentiality and support the young person with the duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of the young person and others. Staff cannot and should not promise total confidentiality.