Drugs Policy

Approved by:	Daniel Pastori	**Date:**	21.9.25
Last reviewed on:	September 2025		
Next review due by:	September 2028		

Broadstones School aims to help all pupils to be able to take their place safely in a world where a wide range of drugs exists. We recognise that some drugs have beneficial effects, but also that every drug has potential to harm. For this reason, all drugs need appropriate and responsible care and management. In order to be able to make informed choices, staff and pupils need to understand the nature of drugs, their social and legal status, their uses and effects.

Aims:

- To support the endeavor of Broadstones school to maintain the safety and well-being of all pupils, staff and visitors
- To clarify legal responsibilities, entitlements and obligations
- To support all the members of the school by providing clear guidance and procedures on drug related issues to ensure clarity and consistency
- To develop a whole school approach to drug education in the context of the school curriculum

Key roles and responsibilities

The Headteacher is responsible for drug related issues within the school.

Inclusive definition of drugs

Broadstones School defines a drug as a substance which, when taken into the body, changes the way we feel, the way we perceive things, and the way our body works. This definition includes illegal substances and also legal substances such as alcohol, tobacco, solvents and medicines.

Drug Education

- **Context**
  We will provide all pupils with drug education as an integral part of our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme

- **Ethos**
  Drug education aims to enable pupils to make informed choices by increasing their knowledge, exploring a range of attitudes towards drug use and developing and practicing decision making skills. The programme we follow will be based on national and local guidelines for good practice and be appropriate to the age and experience of our pupils.

- **Content and delivery**
  Teaching will be based on an understanding that a variety of approaches should be used in order to meet the differing needs of pupils.

- **Use of visitors and outside speakers**
  We may use visitors to support and/or train staff alongside our planned programme, in line with national and local guidance.

Managing drug related incidents: routine arrangements

- **Medicines**
  The school has a policy/procedure for the supporting medical conditions that must be followed for safety of all.

- **Alcohol**
  Pupils are not allowed to possess alcohol on any school premises. Anybody, including parents/carers and visitors under the effects of alcohol will be asked to leave the premises and return at a later date for the safety of the whole school.

- **Tobacco**
  The school is a no smoking site - indoors and outdoors, including school vehicles - at all times. When agreed with home, students that do smoke will do so offsite in designated areas supervised by staff to minimise risks of absconding and other issues that may increase the vulnerability of our students.
- **Solvents**
  The school will ensure that potentially hazardous substances are stored safely. Pupils will be supervised at all times if they are required to work with such substances as part of their work. Pupils

are not permitted to be in possession of solvent based products.

- **Illegal drugs**
  No illegal drugs are permitted to be brought on to, or used on school premises.

Incidents

A drug related incident may include (but is not limited to) any of the following**:**

- A pupil who is suspected of being under the influence of a drug
- Finding drugs, or related paraphernalia on school premises
- Possession of drugs by an individual on school premises
- Use of drugs by an individual on school premises
- Supply of drugs on school premises
- Individuals disclosing information about their drug use
- Rumours of drug possession supply or drug use.
- Reports of drug possession supply or drug use

Guiding principles

- A designated member of staff, the DSL or deputy DSL, is responsible for coordinating the management of drug related incidents, offering sources of support and liaising with outside agencies ● Incidents will be dealt with after making an assessment of the situation and be reported to the Headteacher
- Appropriate support will be offered to those with substance misuse problems
- The school will always seek to respond appropriately to each individual case by selecting from a range of possible responses. This may include exclusion, if deemed appropriate.

Procedures

- **Medical emergencies**
  If an individual is unconscious, is having trouble breathing, is seriously confused or disorientated, has taken a harmful toxic substance or is otherwise at immediate risk of harm, medical help will be sought and first aid given if required. The priority will be the pupil's safety
  Staff are not medically trained and if a pupil appears intoxicated but does not appear to need immediate medical intervention, the parents/carers will be called to collect the pupil from the site in line with health and safety guidelines.

- **Individuals in possession of drugs**
  If any pupil or adult on school premises is found in possession of an unauthorised drug it will be confiscated. If the drug is suspected to be illegal, the school will contact the police and immediately hand over the drug. If the substance cannot be legally destroyed or disposed of it will be handed to the police as soon as possible and not stored for any longer than is necessary. Talking with an individual about a drug related incident will be to confirm or reject suspicions or allegations, rather than to conduct a wider investigation. Parents/carers of pupils will be informed as well as other professionals: Young Persons Substance Misuse Service, Youth Service, Police, School Health Service, Social Service etc may be informed or consulted as appropriate.

- **Support for pupils**
  Following actions to preserve immediate safety, the health and emotional needs of all pupils will be considered. Support is available from staff to ensure a caring response to pupils in distress. Interventions will be considered if the school feels a pupil is showing signs which indicate particular risks or involvement with drugs, whether their own or that of their parent or carer. Such interventions may include consultation and subsequent referral.

- **Recording**
  All incidents will be recorded on IRIS (MIS System)

Confidentiality

Complete secrecy can never be promised to a pupil. Information given in confidence will only be disclosed to anyone else in the interests of Child Protection. If a pupil discloses that they are using a drug without medical authorisation, action will be taken to ensure that the pupil comes to no serious harm if this is considered a significant risk. Staff have a commitment to inform the pupil in advance of any disclosure of information to others and if possible enable the pupil to be involved in the process. Staff are committed to protect a young

person's anonymity where their disclosure may implicate others. Regarding disclosures, staff need to carefully define and communicate the boundaries of confidentiality offered.

Staff training and support
We recognise the need for staff to receive appropriate training to support their work in delivering the school programme of drug education and dealing appropriately with incidents should they arise. The headteacher will organise training related to the identified needs of staff as required.

Links to other policies
See also the school's Behaviour policy, Anti-Bullying policy, Health & Safety policy PSHE Curriculum.

Agencies that can provide support and guidance

Mosaic Young People Substance Misuse Service: 0161 218 1100
Talk to Frank: 0300 123 6600