



Illegal Drugs and Drugs Education Policy

Document Control Information

Version	DATE	DESCRIPTION
8	19/01/2021	Minor Amendments
9	16/03/2022	Update Logo
10	10/05/2023	Reviewed

Reviewed	10/05/2023
Responsibility	Tom Scantlebury
Committee	SLT / T&L
Review Date	10/05/2024
Signed	Jim Mathieson

1. Ethos

Foundry College is an inclusive college which actively seeks to provide an environment where all members of the community are safe from harm. As such, the college takes a robust approach to any individual or group that violates our Illegal Drugs and Drugs Education Policy.

This policy outlines the procedures to be followed when drug related incidents occur on the premises and provides guidance for dealing with parents, outside agencies, police and press.

This policy should be cross-referenced with the Relationship / Behaviour Policy, the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and the Healthy Relationships Education Policy

2. Definition of Drugs

A medicine, narcotic or other substance which has a physiological and stimulant effect when ingested or otherwise introduced into the body.

The term 'drugs' and 'drug education' throughout the policy, unless otherwise stated is used to refer to:

- a) All illegal drugs, including legal highs
- b) All legal drugs, including alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances,
- c) All over the counter and prescription drugs

Throughout this policy although reference is made solely to pupils the contents also apply to staff and visitors to the premises.

3. Illegal drugs and legal highs

No illegal drugs, legal highs or drugs paraphernalia are allowed to be brought onto, or used on college premises. Bringing any such items onto college premises is considered a serious breach of this drugs policy. Seeking to influence or glamorise illegal drug use or the use of legal highs either in person on college premises or via social networking sites is also considered a serious breach of this drugs policy.

4. Medicines

The school has a policy / procedure for the administration of medicines that must be followed for everyone's safety. Please see Support for Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy.

5. Alcohol

No alcohol may be brought onto college premises or consumed during the course of a college day. Those in possession of, or suspected of being under the influence of alcohol, will be managed in accordance with this policy.

6. Solvents

The college will ensure that potentially hazardous substances it authorises are stored safely, and pupils will be supervised if it is necessary that they come into contact with them in the course of their work. Pupils are not permitted to be in possession of solvents. Bringing solvents or hazardous substances onto college premises is considered a serious breach of this drugs policy.

7. Tobacco, Vaping and E-cigarettes

Foundry College is a no smoking site at all times, this includes the college grounds, vehicles, offsite activities and alternative provision. Pupils are not permitted to bring to college smoking materials, including matches and lighters, vaping and e-cigarettes.

8. Roles and responsibilities

8.1 Role of the Management Committee

The Management Committee will be involved in drug and drug related incidents in the same manner as any other matter concerning the direction of the College.

8.2 Role of Headteacher, Senior and Extended Leadership Team

The Headteacher, Senior and Extended Leadership will manage and support every concern brought to their attention and the procedures will be adhered to with the policy implemented across the college.

The Education Act 2011 makes legal provision for staff to search pupils without consent for weapons, knives, alcohol, illegal drugs and stolen items. However, in the interest of staff safety, staff will not search pupils who are suspected of being in possession of any of the above substances.

8.3 Role of Teachers / Form Tutors

Teachers / form tutors are responsible for the implementation of general drug education within the College curriculum. Drug education should be regularly evaluated and reviewed in line with the College's Curriculum and Assessment Policies. Staff will receive appropriate training often.

8.4 Role of Parents

Foundry College actively encourages parental involvement in a variety of ways including at review days and frequent contact from the teacher and / or form tutor.

8.5 Role of Outside Agencies

Foundry College actively co-operates with other agencies, such as the Community Police, Social Services, Local Authority and Health and Drug Agencies to support with incidents of substance use and misuse.

9. Drugs Education

Drugs education provides information and promotes healthy lifestyles and positive activities. It builds on and disseminates good practice in identifying what works best in prevention of substance misuse. It seeks to help and advise those pupils already at risk from drug abuse, including alcohol, tobacco and solvents.

Primary pupils' access drugs education through the PSHE curriculum, using Jigsaw Education, who provide age appropriate resources which are delivered throughout the academic year. For secondary pupils, drugs education will be taught through Life lessons, mentoring sessions and focus days which address issues of risky behaviour, decision making and staying safe.

10. Dealing with sensitive issues

Drugs Education will include questions of values and beliefs. It is therefore bound to be controversial. Teaching about the issues associated with substance misuse should be set within a clear moral framework in which pupils are encouraged to consider the importance of self restraint, dignity and respect for themselves and others and helped to recognise the physical, emotional and moral risks of substance misuse. Pupils should be encouraged to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, which does not rely upon the effects of substance misuse for a sense of well being.

11. Advice and Confidentiality

If a pupil discloses to a member of staff that he or she is involved in taking drugs, that member of staff should make it clear to the pupil that he / she can offer no guarantee of confidentiality given the seriousness of drug misuse. A member of staff may point out those organisations which are able to give information and advice.

12. Guidelines for Dealing with Drug Related Incidents

A drug related incident may include or result from any of the following:

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

Any pupil arriving on the premises, suspected of being under the influence, or in possession of drugs or alcohol, will be seen and risk assessed by the Headteacher or designated member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Where necessary parents will be contacted and asked to collect their child from college immediately. It may also be necessary to call the police depending upon the severity of the matter. In the event that college are unable to contact parents or other designated emergency contacts, they will contact the police and request assistance.

Where property is confiscated, in accordance with the law, the school may retain or dispose of this property if there is good reason to do so and this also applies to illegal

or harmful substances. In the case of confiscated controlled or believed to be controlled drugs, these will be passed to the police.

College will also refer the matter to social care through the completion of a Multi Agency Referral Form (MARF).

Return to Foundry College is dependent upon a meeting and agreed strategy between parents, pupil and Headteacher or senior member of staff in charge. Drug counselling will always be offered.

The police will always be informed if a pupil is caught or reportedly dealing drugs or alcohol on site or to any other College pupils.

A written record of all meetings will be kept. Parents will always be informed if their child is believed to be in possession of or under the influence of drugs and in the event of police involvement.

13. Child Protection and Safeguarding Concerns

When managing drug related incidents, it is important that staff are aware of both the College Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and the Child Protection Act, and should ensure that any action taken, should meet the requirements of the law.

14. Dealing with the Press

No single member of staff should take it upon themselves to speak to the Press in relation to any incident. Local Authority guidelines will be followed at all times.