



# Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

Issued: Sept 2018  
Review: Term 1 annually  
LST: TGI/MAM

## DRUGS IN SCHOOL POLICY

Parents and all those who work with young people have expressed concern about the easy availability of drugs and the consequent increase in the use of drugs amongst young people. Schools within the Bath and North-East Somerset area have met and have agreed a common policy which will be followed should any incident occur. The following policy is based on a common framework which reflects a shared concern to protect the best interests of all pupils.

1. Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership (MNSP) Schools acknowledge that any involvement with illegal substances (drugs) is a criminal offence. We regard the possession of, the use of, or the dealing in (supplying) of any harmful substance to be an extremely serious offence. No illegal or potentially harmful substance of any nature should ever be brought into school.
2.
  - (i) Any pupil who is proven to have supplied an illegal substance (drug) to another pupil during the course of the school day, during a school organised activity or at any other time when the authority of the school pertains, **will** be permanently excluded (expelled) from the school.
  - (ii) Any pupil who is proven to have been in possession of or to have used an illegal substance (drug) during the course of the school day, during a school organised activity or at any other time when the authority of the school pertains, **may** be permanently excluded (expelled) from the school.
3. All cases involving illegal drugs, will be referred directly to the Police by the Headteacher, or in his absence the Deputy or Designated Assistant Headteacher.
4. At the time of any drug-related instance which occurs, the school will consider the desirability of obtaining medical or other advice as the pupil's health and safety may be endangered. In all instances parents will be recommended to inform their GP and will be given further advice regarding organisations which may assist.
5. The MNSP school will ensure that pupils and parents will be made aware of this policy on joining the school and at regular intervals thereafter.
6. The MNSP school will provide a range of drug-related information and education during assemblies, tutorials and through the Personal, Social and Health Education programme. These programmes will be regularly reviewed.
7. The MNSP school will provide all staff (teaching and non-teaching) with In-Service Training on drug-related issues.
8. The MNSP school will provide information to parents/guardians of pupils on all aspects related to their drugs policy at appropriate times.
9. The MNSP will review regularly the implementation of the Drugs Policy and all parents and pupils will be informed of any subsequent changes.
10. The MNSP school regard it as important that any pupils who have been known to be involved in drugs are closely monitored if a transfer between schools occurs. Confidential information will be shared in order to ensure the most positive opportunities for pupils starting at a new school.

## **OTHER SUBSTANCES**

Alcohol: Points 4 to 10 apply

The misuse of alcohol is extremely hazardous to health.

- Alcohol must never be brought into school
- Any pupil who brings alcohol into school or is under the influence of alcohol will be excluded
- Any pupil who supplies alcohol to another pupil will either be excluded or permanently excluded

Solvents/Chemicals: Points 4 to 10 apply

The misuse of solvents/chemicals is extremely hazardous to health.

- Solvents/chemicals must never be brought into school
- Any pupil who brings solvents/chemicals into school or is under the influence of solvents/chemicals will be excluded
- Any pupil who supplies solvents/chemicals to another pupil will either be excluded or permanently excluded

Cigarettes: Points 4 to 10 apply

In the light of the recent change in the law and the risks to health as well as health and safety in the school, the action taken with cigarettes needs to be more serious. Therefore:

- Cigarettes must never be brought into school.
- If any child is caught smoking or is with a group of pupils that are smoking they will be put into a detention until 5pm with senior management. If the pupil opts for an information session on the impact of smoking (until 4.15 pm) this will be instead of the detention.
- If any child is caught smoking or is with a group of pupils that are smoking a second time they will be put into a detention until 5pm with senior management.
- If a pupil is caught smoking, or with a group of pupils who are smoking for a third time they may be excluded and persistent offenders may be permanently excluded.
- If any child passes or sells cigarettes to another pupil they will be excluded and persistent offenders may be permanently excluded.

### **Note**

This policy applies whether during the course of the school day, during school organised visits, to and from school or at any other time when the authority of the school pertains.

If students are suspected of any of these activities they may be expected to empty their bags, pockets and locker. In the case of residential trips rooms may also be searched. The involvement of the police and/or exclusion will follow if a student does not comply with this request.