



Kings' School Drugs Policy 2026

Policy name	Drugs Policy	Owner - WBB
Hampshire model policy	NO	
Approved by Headteacher/SLT:	ADS	February 2024
Approved by Committee	Education Committee	February 2026
To be reviewed / Next review date	3 yearly	February 2027

1. Rationale

1.1 This policy is under continuous review by the Senior Leadership Team and the Pupil Support Governors Committee because of the changing drugs scene both nationally and locally. It should be read and administered with reference to The Kings' School Child Protection and Safeguarding Policies, Behaviour Policy, Exclusion Policy and also The Kings' School PSHRE schemes of work.

It is our aim to help all pupils to be able to take their place safely in a world where a wide range of drugs exists. We know that our pupils are well-motivated and right-thinking young people. However, we also know that they are growing up in a world where illegal drugs are relatively easily available and we need to work hard to educate them about the issues, so they can remain safe in the time they are not with us. We recognise that some drugs have beneficial medicinal effects, but also that every drug has potential 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.

2. Definition of a drug

2.1 A drug is a substance that affects the way in which the body functions physically, emotionally or mentally. This definition includes illegal substances and also legal age-related substances such as alcohol & tobacco (including vaping, snus and all nicotine replacement therapy), volatile substances, over the counter and prescription medicines. This drugs policy covers not only illegal drugs (such as cannabis, cocaine and ecstasy) but legal ones too, like alcohol, tobacco and solvents, and drugs sold over

the counter or provided on prescription, see Appendix 1. Although the majority of young people of school-age do not abuse drugs, all pupils are likely to be exposed to the effects and influences of drugs in the wider community and be increasingly exposed to opportunities to try both legal and illegal drugs. Such experiments may lead to serious and far reaching consequences not only for themselves, but their families, their communities and society in general. For children and young people in particular, drugs can impact on their education, their relationships with family and friends and prevent them from reaching their full potential. New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) which are sometimes referred to as “Legal Highs” are 21st Century drugs. The Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 has been introduced to restrict the open retail of psychoactive substances by banning the sale, supply and importation of these drugs.

3. Aims

- To support the school's endeavour to maintain the safety and well-being of all pupils and staff
- To clarify legal responsibilities, entitlement and obligations
- To support all the members of the school community by providing clear guidance and procedures on drug related issues to ensure clarity and consistency
- To develop, monitor and review a whole school approach to drug education in the context of the PSHRE curriculum of Kings' School, see Appendix 4

4. Drugs on Kings' School premises/site

4.1 The legal definition of the premises/site of a school includes everything within the property boundaries including buildings, outbuildings, playgrounds, fields and also extends to any venue managed by the school at the time e.g. premises of a school trip or visit. (Including residential visits). This includes during term time and holidays.

Medicines

The school has a policy/procedure for the administration of medicines that must be followed for everyone's safety. We follow procedures recommended by Hampshire Health & Safety guidelines. These medicines are to be administered by Matron or another healthcare professional only.

Alcohol

No alcohol will be consumed during the course of a normal school day. Pupils 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. Parents will be asked to collect their children if they are deemed to be under the influence of alcohol.

Smoking

The school is a no smoking site at all times. Pupils are not permitted to bring to school smoking materials including ready rolled cigarettes, tobacco, cigarette papers, pipes, matches and lighters. In the interests of health and safety, should a pupil be found in

possession of any of these on the school premises (see 4.2) they will be confiscated and parents informed. All vaping and nicotine replacement products are also not permitted on the school site at any time.

illegal drugs

Pupils must not:

- A – have drugs in their possession
- B – Use and/or be under the influence of any illegal drugs
- C - Supply another person with an illegal drug

Solvents

The school will ensure that potentially hazardous substances are stored safely, and pupils will be supervised if it is necessary that they come into contact with them in the course of their schoolwork. Pupils are not permitted to be in possession of sniffable products.

4.2 Responses to drug related incidents

A drug incident may be any of the following:

- Finding drugs, or related items on school premises
- A pupil coming to school under the influence of drugs
- Possession of drugs by an individual on school premises
- A pupil supplying drugs to another person
- Use of drugs by an individual on school premises
- Supply or retail of drugs on school premises
- Individuals disclosing information about their drug use
- Rumours of parents, staff or pupils using drugs
- Reports of parents, staff or pupils using drugs
- Anyone bringing drugs to school

4.3 Drug related incidents will usually lead to consideration of the Behaviour Policy and a Permanent Exclusion in accordance with Department for Education guidance on exclusions, see Appendix 2. Each case will be assessed and levels of sanctions may vary according to the seriousness of the incident and the pupil's involvement. We are empowered to sanction any Kings' School pupil who supplies drugs to another person at any time and in any place. The school works closely with the Police and we share information with them, so that we can protect the school community.

4.4 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 possible. If the drug is suspected to be illegal, the school will contact a police officer for discussion. Upon confiscation the drugs will be placed in secure storage until the enquiries are concluded. Illegal substances will be disposed of as advised by the Police as soon as possible. Parents will be informed (for a pupil) and other professionals such as the Local

Authority, Youth Service, Police, GP, Social Services will be informed or consulted as appropriate.

5. Roles and responsibilities

5.1 The headteacher will ensure that:

The senior leadership team and pastoral team is appointed to have general responsibility for handling the daily implementation of this policy; a planned drug education programme is provided as part of the PSHRE curriculum, that enhances knowledge and understanding, attitudes and personal and social skills.

- teachers are provided with training and guidance so that they are confident and skilled to teach drug education and to respond to drug-related incidents. This will mostly be delivered through regular safeguarding updates.
- pupils are aware of the rules on drugs and of the consequences of breaking them.
- clear procedures are in place for responding to drug-related incidents.
- those pupils who have a concern about drugs are provided with support.
- sanctions for incidents are consistent with the Behaviour Management policy.
- the school actively co-operates with external agencies to deliver its commitment to drugs education.

5.2 All staff are expected to:

- report incidents or rumours of drug misuse to a member of the senior leadership team and /or Head of Year.
- promote positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles
- enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support.

5.3 All teachers are expected to:

- implement the drug education programme and attend associated training to increase their understanding of the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse. This is particularly linked to child protection and safeguarding.
- enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, exploring their own and other people's attitudes and developing and practising personal skills to resist peer group pressure and help friends and relatives involved in drug misuse. This is particularly important given the well-researched relationship between drugs and mental health.
- provide accurate information about substances.
- widen their own and the students' understanding of related health and social issues,

e.g. sex and sexuality, mental health, HIV/AIDS and crime. Substance makes pupils more vulnerable to exploitation and abuse by others, as well as going missing from education. County lines is a good example of this: where pupils can become attracted to serve gangs by initially being given free drugs and then persuaded to sell or transport them, see Appendix 3.

- 5.4 Pupils will be expected to:
 - follow the school rules.
 - alert the staff to any drug-related incidents on or around the school site.
- 5.5 Parents will be encouraged to:
 - endorse the school's approach to drugs education
 - work in partnership with the school to overcome the misuse of drugs.
- 5.6 The Governing Body will ensure that:
 - the school does not knowingly allow its premises to be used for the production, consumption or supply of any controlled drug in addition to solvents, vapes, snus, alcohol and tobacco, other than for alcohol only under licence for a KSA/community event.
 - the school, parents and external agencies work together to support any pupil involved in drug abuse
 - the Governors' Disciplinary Committee understands how to deal with drug-related exclusion procedures.

6. Monitoring and evaluation

- 6.1 The Pupil Support Committee of the Governing Body will receive an annual report on the number and nature of drug-related incidents, and the outcomes of any disciplinary proceedings.

Appendix 1. List of relevant drugs, not limited to.

Illegal drugs include:

Amphetamines

Barbiturates

Cannabis (any form e.g. hash, grass, pot, marijuana, dope, oil)

Ketamine

Ecstasy / MDMA

Cocaine

Crack

Hallucinogens: natural

Hallucinogens: synthetic

Heroin

Opiates

Muscle-building steroids

Methedrone (Miaow)

Tranquillisers

New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) "Legal Highs."

Class A	Class B	Class C
Ecstasy	Cannabis	
Heroin	Synthetic cannabinoids	Some painkillers
Cocaine	Amphetamines	
Magic mushrooms	Methylphenidate (Ritalin)	Laughing gas/nitrous oxide
	Pholcodine	
Crack	Ketamine	
	Pholcodine	
	Gamma hydroxybutyrate GHB	

Class A, B and C drugs are termed as controlled substances under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, with Class A being those considered most harmful.

Full list of illegal substances
Home Office December 2019

[List of most commonly encountered drugs currently controlled under the misuse of drugs legislation - GOV.UK](#)

Legal drugs include:

Alcohol
Prescription drugs
Solvents
Tobacco
Vapes
Snus
Poppers

Appendix 2

“Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England”
Department for Education, September 2023.

[Drugs: advice for schools - GOV.UK](#)

Appendix 3

County Lines guidance
Home Office, February 2020

[Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines \(accessible version\) - GOV.UK](#)

Appendix 4

Kings’ School Drugs Education Programme through KS3 and KS4

Year Group	Teaching through PSHRE lessons	When
7	Respectful Relationships – pupils look at the impact peer pressure can have on decision making. They learn about how to stand up for themselves and strategies for saying no.	Autumn term 1
8	Drugs Education – pupils learn about the impacts of a variety of Tobacco, Alcohol and Illegal Drugs. This is in the context of risky behaviour and peer pressure. They learn about the short and long-term effects of drugs use on themselves, their families and the wider community. They consider their attitude to drugs, what the law says and the long-term consequences of a criminal	Spring term 1

	conviction/warning. They understand the concept of County Lines and the risks the network pose to vulnerable young people. A lesson on Vaping is also included to raise awareness of the issues for young people. They learn where they can go to access help and support for any drugs related issue.	
9	Personal Relationships – pupils consider the impact of alcohol and Drugs on relationships and unsafe sexual activity. They also learn about the issues surrounding Consent in sexual relationships and the impact alcohol can have on making safe and legal choices. They watch a performance delivered by Solomon Theatre called ‘Last Orders’ which explores these themes. Mental well-being – pupils revisit impact of alcohol and other drugs on their health (healthy lifestyles).	Spring term 2 November (Last Orders) Summer 1
10	Lifestyles Choices: Drugs education – includes teaching about Alcohol, Illegal Drugs with particular emphasis on Cannabis. Pupils learn about the short and long-term effects on the body, the mental health effects and future including living with a criminal record and the impact of drug use on relationships (family and friends). This is through activities, video and materials provided by Safe4me Hampshire Constabulary education materials. Vaping is also included to raise the issues posed and potential impact on health	Autumn term 1
11	Safer Driving – pupils revisit the impact of Alcohol and Drugs on driving including the risks posed to themselves as a passenger under the influence of one or both.	Spring term 2