

# **Ealing Independent College**

## **Alcohol, Drugs and Other Substances Policy**

**This policy applies to all pupils in the school**



Created November 2015

Reviewed October 2019

Reviewed October 2020

Reviewed October 2021

Reviewed October 2022

Reviewed September 2023

## **ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND OTHER SUBSTANCES POLICY**

The College aims to discourage students' inappropriate use of alcohol, controlled drugs and other substances. To ensure that students do not misuse any substance while they are studying at the College. Pastoral care and measures to detect users will be used and appropriate sanctions applied. The School will also have regard to any relevant legislation.

The Policy also applies to the paraphernalia of drugs or substances intended to resemble drugs, and other substances held or supplied.

### **Education**

The curriculum, including PSHE curriculum, and the College assemblies will include a range of opportunities to educate students as to the potential risks to their health; the possible impact on their wider personal and professional lives; and the wider social implications of using and abusing different substances.

The College will rely on teaching and other staff employed by the College as well as external agencies and individuals to help develop students' understanding of these issues.

### **Pastoral Care**

Students will be encouraged to discuss with staff any issues or concerns they have relating to their own health and use or abuse of any substance.

Matters disclosed by a student or his/her parents during counselling or other private discussions with members of staff will remain confidential, unless there is believed to be an impact or risk of an impact on others within the College community. Any member of staff who has any concerns about a student in relation to such matters will be expected to share those concerns with senior pastoral staff.

### **Detection**

The College will investigate every complaint or report of involvement with drugs and substances.

The College reserves the right to undertake drug testing as appropriate.

### **Sanctions**

The College regards wilful breaches of the College rules in relation to the supply, possession and misuse of substances as serious misconduct. In such instances, the College is not obliged to offer a support system, but in all circumstances, will try to do so; attached to this policy is some guidance for Community Drug & Alcohol treatment and recovery services in the local boroughs.

The College:

- is very likely to suspend any student suspected of involvement with drugs or other substances pending further investigations;
- will almost certainly ask parents to withdraw from the College anyone supplying or using drugs or other substances within the College's jurisdiction even if he/she is about to sit public examinations. The Police will be informed in cases where supplying drugs has been proved. The

same approach will be taken with anyone who is involved with assisting the acquisition or use of drugs by others.

- will, depending on the circumstances, issue at least a final warning to any student possessing illegal substances.



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#### Community drug and alcohol treatment and recovery services

Community drug and alcohol treatment and recovery services provide a range of specialist substance misuse interventions for individuals and families who are affected by the misuse of drugs and/or alcohol. The service is available in Ealing - and this would be the first point of contact.

The community drug and alcohol services have highly skilled, multi-disciplinary teams which include consultant addiction psychiatrists; clinical psychologists; nurses; social workers; employment specialist; peer support workers and 'experts by experience' recovery staff. They work in partnership in local systems with local voluntary sector substance misuse services and mutual aid organisations including Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and SMART recovery.