



Callington Community
College

Drug Education Policy

September 2023

Version	Date	Review Date
September 2019 A Yendell		September 2021
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Rationale

It is our aim to help all students 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 medicinal effects, but also that every drug has potential harm. For this reason, all drugs need appropriate and responsible care and management. To be able to make informed choices, staff and students need to understand the nature of drugs, their social and legal status, their uses and effects.

Aims of this policy

- To clarify the legal requirements, responsibilities and obligations of the College
- To reinforce and safeguard the health and safety of students, staff and the whole College community
- To clarify the College's approach to drugs for all staff, students, governors, parents/carers, external agencies and the wider community
- To give guidance on developing, implementing and monitoring the drug education programme
- To clarify the procedures for responding to and managing any drug-related incidents that may occur so that they are managed with confidence and consistency and in the best interests of those involved
- To ensure that the response to incidents involving drugs and the drug education programme complement the values and ethos of the College
- To reinforce the role of the College in contributing to local and national strategies.

Policy context

As part of their statutory duty to promote students' wellbeing, schools have a clear role to play in preventing drug misuse. The Drugs Education Policy has been developed with reference to Department for Education advice and guidance: DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools (DfE-00001- 2012) which is non-statutory and was produced to help answer some of the most common questions raised by school staff in this area.

The drugs education of students takes into account the statutory requirements within the National Curriculum Science Order, the non-statutory framework for PSHE at Key Stages 3 and 4 and the statutory Citizenship Programme of Study at Key Stages 3 and 4.

Other related policies and documents include

- Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Behaviour for Learning Policy
- School Visits
- Use of reasonable force policy

Where and to whom the policy applies

This policy applies to all school staff, students, parents/carers, governors and other partner agencies working with the school. The policy applies to the school premises, the school day, while travelling to and from school, journeys in school time, work experience, day and residential trips and when the school is deemed to be in loco parentis.

Definition of Drugs

The definition of a drug given by the United Nations office on Drugs and Crime is: "A substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave". Here, "drugs" and "drug education" is used to refer to:

- all illegal drugs (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971)
- all legal drugs, including alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances (those giving off a gas or vapour which can be inhaled), ketamine, khat, alkyl nitrites (known as poppers) and new psychoactive drugs ('legal highs')
- all over-the-counter and prescription medicines.

The College's stance towards drugs, health and the needs of students

The possession, use or supply of illegal and other unauthorised drugs at Callington Community College is not acceptable. The College is committed to safeguarding the health, safety and wellbeing of all members of the College community. In providing drugs education and responding to incidents involving drugs, our first concern is the pastoral care and health and safety of students. **Appendix 1 provides further details on drugs classification.**

Medicines

The school has a Supporting Students with Medical Conditions Policy for the administration of medicines that must be followed for everyone's safety.

Alcohol

No alcohol will be consumed during the course of a normal school day. Students 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

Smoking/Vaping

The school is a no smoking site at all times. This includes vaping. Students are not permitted to bring to school smoking or vaping materials, including matches and lighters. In the interests of health and safety, should a student be found in possession of any of these on school premises, they will be confiscated as per the 'Screening, Searching and Confiscation' Policy.

Illegal drugs

No illegal drugs can be brought on to, or used on school premises. The College may invite or allow Devon and Cornwall Police's drugs dogs and their handlers to visit to help educate and deter illegal drugs from being brought onto the College site. Any positive identifications will be dealt with sensitively and as discreetly as possible. The College safeguarding team will work in collaboration with the Police and other agencies as appropriate to determine the best course of action following any such positive identification or should illegal drugs be found.

Solvents

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

Drugs Education

Aims of Drug Education

Drug education is a major component of drug prevention. The following aims of drug education at Callington Community College will be consistent with the values and ethos of the school and laws of society as well as being appropriate to the age, ability and maturity of the students, and relevant to their particular circumstances:

- To increase students' knowledge and understanding a knowledge and understanding and clarify misconception clarify misconceptions about
 - the short and long-term effects and risks of drugs
 - the rules and laws relating to drugs
 - the impact of drugs on individuals, families and communities
 - local and national use
 - the complex moral, social, emotional and political issues surrounding drugs
- To develop students' personal and social skills to make informed decisions and keep themselves safe and healthy, including
 - promoting positive attitudes to healthy lifestyles
 - assessing, avoiding and managing risk
 - communicating effectively
 - resisting pressures
 - finding information, help and advice
 - devising problem-solving and coping strategies
 - developing and maintaining self-awareness and self-esteem in order to motivate them to value their welfare and conscientious care of themselves
- To enable students to explore their own and other peoples' attitudes towards drugs, drug use and drug users, including challenging stereotypes, and exploring media and social influences
- To ensure that students have access to and knowledge of up to date information as sources of help. This includes local and national helplines (including FRANK for drugs, NHS Smoking Services for tobacco and Drinkline for alcohol), youth and community services and drug services. These sources are used in addition to the school's own drug and alcohol education

Drug Education Content

Callington Community College provides a planned drug education curriculum through the following:

- (i) The **National Curriculum Science** Order outlines the content of the statutory drugs education:
 - Key Stage 3: 11-14 year olds should be taught that "conception, growth, development, behaviour and health can be affected by diet, drugs and disease
 - Key Stage 4: 14-16 year olds should be taught that "human health is affected by a range of environmental and inherited factors, by the use and misuse of drugs and by medical treatments".
- (ii) **PSHE** at Key Stages 3 and 4 includes specific drugs education such as understanding drugs: caffeine, tobacco, alcohol", "the law and managing risk", "managing risk" and "help seeking/support" as well as other topics that reflect knowledge, understanding, attitudes and social skills.
- (iii) **Other curriculum areas** such as Religious Education and Physical Education also contribute to aspects of the drug education curriculum.
- (iv) **Assembly Programme**

Management of drug-related incidents

Defining a drug-related incident related incident

Drug-related incidents include any or all of the following:

- drugs or drugs paraphernalia found on school premises;
- students in possession of illegal or unauthorised drugs;

- students supplying unauthorised or illegal drugs;
- students under the influence of drugs, or exhibiting signs of intoxication or illness;
- disclosure of drug use;
- information which suggests student(s) are involved in substance misuse;
- illegitimate sale/supply of drugs in the school vicinity.

If there are any suspicions, observations, disclosures or discoveries of situations involving illegal and other unauthorised drugs (possession, supply or imbibing):

- (i) Utmost priority will be placed on safety, meeting any medical emergencies with first aid and summoning appropriate help before addressing further issues. If in doubt, medical assistance will be sought immediately.
- (ii) The Principal or the Vice Principal will be informed of the situation immediately.
- (iii) Dialogue with the student(s) will be undertaken by the Principal or Vice Principal or designated senior member of staff as soon as possible in order to determine the facts. The emphasis will be on listening to what students have to say and asking open rather than closed or leading questions. Consideration will be given to separating any students involved in the incident and ensuring that a second adult witness is present.
- (iv) The Principal or the Vice Principal will inform, consult and involve others as necessary. Careful attention will be given to respecting the confidentiality of those involved.
- (v) Where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that a student(s) may have an illegal or unauthorised drug, they will be escorted to a senior member of staff who will make every effort to encourage the individual to hand the item(s) over voluntarily, in the presence of a second member of staff. Where possible, the gender of the member of staff carrying out a search will correspond to the gender of the student. Where the individual refuses, the Principal, or member of staff authorised by them, may exercise their statutory power to search the student(s) or their possessions, without consent. (See '[Searching, Screening and Confiscation: Advice for Schools 2022](#)')
- (vi) Staff may search school property, for example, students' lockers, if they believe drugs to be stored there. Prior cooperation will always be sought. Individuals will be made aware that if consent is refused the school may wish to proceed with a search.
- (vii) After any search involving students, parents/carers will be contacted by the College, regardless of whether the result of the search was positive or negative.
- (viii) Any substance suspected of being a drug will be confiscated. In taking temporary possession of a suspected substance, a second adult witness will be present, the sample will be sealed in a plastic bag with details of the date, time and witness present and then locked in a security cupboard/drawer. If the substance is suspected to be an illegal drug, the police will be notified immediately, in order that they may collect it for identification and then store or dispose of it in line with locally agreed protocols. In the majority of cases, parents will be notified immediately unless this is not in the best interests of the student.
- (ix) A detailed record of the incident will be made. A copy of the record will be kept by the Principal.
- (x) The College will maintain vigilance about drug-related incidents in the local community through contact with police and other relevant agencies.

Responses to drug related incidents

The College will consider each incident individually and will employ a range of responses to deal with each incident. Any response will balance the needs of the individual with those of the wider community and will aim to provide students with the opportunity to learn from their mistakes and develop as individuals.

A drug incident may be any of the following:

- 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 parents, staff or students using drugs
- Reports of parents, staff or students using drugs

(i) While there is no legal obligation to inform the police, if an offence against the Misuse of Drugs Act is suspected or substantiated, it will be appropriate to consider contacting the police. If so, the Principal, or member of staff authorised by them, will make the call.

(ii) If necessary, an urgent meeting will take place on the same day as the incident, or as soon as possible (between the Principal and appropriate member of SLT) in order to decide whether others outside the school should be informed. These may include parents/carers, the appropriate personnel in the LA, Children's Social Care and police.

(iii) The Principal will take responsibility for liaison with the media if required.

(iv) Responses to / sanctions against students who commit drug offences will be decided following dialogue between the Principal, appropriate member(s) of staff, Designated Safeguard Lead and other appropriate colleagues. Possible responses include:

- targeted intervention
- referral
- counselling
- behaviour support plans
- inter-agency programmes
- fixed-term exclusion
- pastoral support programmes
- a managed move
- permanent exclusion

Responses and sanctions will take into account:

- the seriousness of the incident
- the short and long term welfare of the student(s) concerned
- the short and long term welfare of other students
- guidance in DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools (DfE-00001-2012) consistency with published school rules, codes and expectations
- consistency with disciplinary action for other drug related incidents
- consistency with disciplinary action for other misdemeanours.

Evidence of drug use or possession is likely to result in permanent exclusion. Permanent exclusion will only be considered in accordance with DfE guidance on exclusions. A case conference will be called if necessary. Each case will be assessed individually and levels of sanctions may vary according to the seriousness of the incident and the student's involvement.

Support for students

At our school, the welfare of the student is paramount. Following actions to preserve safety, the health and emotional needs of students will be considered. Support is available through the pastoral system, to ensure a caring response to students in distress.

Interventions will be considered if the school feels a student is showing signs which indicate risks of, or from, involvement with drugs, whether their own or their parents'/carers'. Such interventions may include consultation with parents/carers and other agencies, possible case conferences and subsequent referral.

Callington Community College works closely with its Community Police Officers. If students are involved with any activity which breaks the law the police may be involved in the confiscation of items, restorative justice, group work and education as well as links with home. Parents/Carers will always be informed when the police are involved and given the opportunity to attend any interviews.

Confidentiality

Complete secrecy can never be promised to a student, though information given in confidence will not generally be disclosed to anyone else. In particular, if a student chooses to disclose that they are using a drug without medical authorisation, this information will not be used against them. However, action will be taken to ensure the student comes to no serious harm if this is considered a risk. Regarding disclosures staff need to carefully define and communicate the boundaries of confidentiality offered.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years.

APPENDIX 1

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

Class A	Class B	Class C
Ecstasy	Cannabis	Tranquillisers
LSD	Synthetic cannabinoids	Some painkillers
Heroin	Amphetamines	Gamma Hydroxybutyrate (GHB)

Cocaine	Methylphenidate (Ritalin),	Ketamine
Crack	Pholcodine	
Magic mushrooms		
Amphetamines (if prepared for injection).		

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.

Legal drugs include:

- Alcohol
- Prescription drugs
- Solvents
- Tobacco
- Poppers

APPENDIX 2 - Useful Organisations

Addaction is one of the UK's largest specialist drug and alcohol treatment charities. As well as adult services, they provide services specifically tailored to the needs of young people and their parents. The Skills for Life project supports young people with drug misusing parents.

Website: www.addaction.org.uk

ADFAM offers information to families of drug and alcohol users, and the website has a database of local family support services. Tel: 020 7553 7640 Email: admin@adfam.org.uk

Website: www.adfam.org.uk

Alcohol Concern works to reduce the incidence and costs of alcohol-related harm and to increase the range and quality of services available to people with alcohol-related problems

Tel: 020 7264 0510. Email: contact@alcoholconcern.org.uk Website:

www.alcoholconcern.org.uk

ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) A campaigning public health charity aiming to reduce the health problems caused by tobacco. Tel: 020 7739 5902 Email: enquiries@ash.org.uk

Website: www.ash.org.uk

Children's Legal Centre operates a free and confidential Children's Legal Centre initial legal advice and information service covering all aspects of law and policy affecting children and young people. Tel: 01206 877910 Email: clc@essex.ac.uk Website: www.childrenslegalcentre.com

Children's Rights Alliance for England - A charity Children's Rights Alliance for England working to improve the lives and status of all children in England through the fullest implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Email: info@crae.org.uk Website:

www.crae.org.uk

Drinkaware - An independent charity that promotes responsible drinking through innovative ways to challenge the national drinking culture, helping reduce alcohol misuse and minimise alcohol related harm. Tel: 020 7307 7450 Website: www.drinkaware.co.uk

Drinkline - A free and confidential helpline for anyone who is concerned about their own or someone else's drinking. Tel: 0800 917 8282 (lines are open 24 hours a day)

Drug Education Forum – this website contains a number of useful Drug Education Forum papers and briefing sheets for use by practitioners: Website: www.drugeducationforum.com/

DrugScope is a centre of expertise on illegal drugs DrugScope, aiming to inform policy development and reduce drug-related risk. The website includes detailed drug information and access to the Information and Library Service. DrugScope also hosts the Drug Education Practitioners Forum. Tel: 020 7520 7550 Email: info@drugscope.org.uk Website:

www.drugscope.org.uk

FRANK is the national drugs awareness campaign aiming to raise awareness amongst young people of the risks of illegal drugs, and to provide information and advice. It also provides support to parents/carers, helping to give them the skills and confidence to communicate with their children about drugs. 24 Hour Helpline: 0800 776600 Email: frank@talktofrank.com Website:

www.talktofrank.com

Mentor UK is a non-government organisation with a focus on protecting the health and wellbeing of children and young people to reduce the damage that drugs can do to their lives. Tel: 020 7739 8494. Email admin@mentoruk.org Website: www.mentoruk.org.uk

National Children's Bureau promotes the interests and well-being of all children and young people across every aspect of their lives. Tel: 020 7843 6000 Website: www.ncb.org.uk

Family Lives - A charity offering support and information to anyone parenting a child or teenager. It runs a free-phone helpline and courses for parents, and develops innovative projects. Tel: 0800 800 2222 Website: <http://familylives.org.uk/>

Re-Solv (Society for the Prevention of Solvent and Volatile Substance Abuse) A national charity providing information for teachers, other professionals, parents and young people. Tel: 01785 817885 Information line: 01785 810762 Email: information@re-solv.org Website: www.re-solv.org

Smokefree - NHS Smoking Helpline: 0800 169 0 169 Website <http://smokefree.nhs.uk>

Stars National Initiative working with children, young people and families affected by parental drug and alcohol misuse. Website: www.starsnationalinitiative.org.uk

Youth Offending Teams – Local Youth Offending Teams Youth Offending Teams are multi-agency teams and are the responsibility of the local authority, who have a statutory duty to [prevent offending by young people under the age of 18. Website: <https://www.gov.uk/youth-offending-team>