

**Substance Misuse Policy**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Authors | Headmaster, DSL, Head of Boarding |
| Approved by | Governors and SLT |
| Date of Review | September 2024 |

**CONTENTS**

Page

1. **Introduction 3**

**Adapted from: Welsh Government:**

**Guidance for substance misuse education:**

**Guidance document no: 107/2013 July 2013**

1. **The School’s rules: 4**
2. Policy on tobacco and vaping products
3. Policy on Alcohol
4. Policy on over-the-counter medicines; prescription only medicines

such as anabolic steroids and benzodiazepines; new and emerging drugs (NEDs).

1. Policy on illegal substances such as heroin, cocaine, ecstasy, amphetamines,

LSD, cannabis, magic mushrooms, and volatile substances such as

aerosol propellants, butane, solvents and glues

1. **The School’s teaching and learning programme in relation to - 5**

**Keeping Children Safe in Education.**

1. **Introduction**

|  |
| --- |
| Adapted from: **Welsh Government:**  **Guidance for substance misuse education Guidance document no: 107/2013 July 2013**  Meeting the good practice requirements of SME:  • Effective SME should start early and be age-appropriate.  • Use should be made of broad life skill approaches as part of a planned personal and social education programme.  • Substance misuse education aims to empower children and young people to make responsible, well-informed decisions about substances.  • Learning outcomes for substance misuse education should include the key components of the Personal and Social Education framework for 7 to 19-year-olds in Wales. These are skill development, knowledge and understanding, attitudes and values.  • Substance misuse education should be non-judgemental, without stereotyping or stigmatisation.  • Children and young people need to develop the relevant skills within a safe, supportive learning environment.  • Substance misuse education has been shown to be more effective when it is part of a whole *school* approach.  • Teachers and youth workers are best placed to lead and coordinate the delivery of effective educational programmes that can be enhanced by the use of and support from external agencies.  Organisations should ensure that:  • responsibility for co-ordinating SME is delegated to named staff with appropriate training and experience,  • SME is delivered within an overarching local authority quality assurance framework,  • SME is planned and coordinated into and across the curriculum and opportunities are provided for children and young people to participate in the design, delivery and evaluation of educational programmes,  • education programmes are enhanced by the use of materials that support good practice,  • staff delivering SME are knowledgeable, skilled and confident to do so through ongoing access to consistent support and good-quality training,  • the use of appropriately trained external deliverers of SME is planned and coordinated to enhance the organisation’s education programme rather than replace it,  • staff are present during external delivery sessions and take an active role in supporting learning, contributing to the quality assurance cycle for SME within the organisation,  • the delivery of SME is reviewed regularly in order to ensure that programmes are responsive to the needs of learners and that a supportive learning environment is maintained for all,  • learners are made aware of appropriate organisations/services for advice and/or support, eg: school-based counselling.  A defined range of the substances covered by the policy should include:   * tobacco and vaping products * alcohol * over-the-counter medicines and prescription only medicines such as anabolic steroids and benzodiazepines * new and emerging drugs (NEDs). * illegal substances such as heroin, cocaine, ecstasy, amphetamines, LSD, cannabis, magic mushrooms * volatile substances such as aerosol propellants, butane, solvents and glues   Effective policies are those that are known and understood by all affected by them:  Within organisations this will be the case if the following groups know about the procedures within the policy and have a role in development and monitoring:  • Governors.  • Staff at induction and ongoing in-service training.  • Children and young people.  • Parents/carers.  • Outside agencies to whom the organisation refers. |

1. **The School’s rules**
2. **Policy on tobacco and vaping products**

* The school rules forbid the possession (and thereby the consumption or supply) of tobacco (principally but not exclusively cigarettes) and vaping products by pupils.
* They also state that pupils are not permitted to purchase tobacco and vaping products, even if over the age of 16 years, whilst under the school’s authority.
* Pupils may not bring tobacco or vaping products into school, even if given to them by parents, guardians of friends.
* Infringement of these rules is viewed as a serious disciplinary offence be dealt with within the usual disciplinary framework of the school, involving parents where appropriate, but aggravated or repeated cases may result in exclusion (either temporary or permanent).

1. **Policy on Alcohol**

• The school rules forbid the possession (and thereby the consumption or supply) of alcohol by pupils.

• They also state that pupils are not permitted to purchase alcohol in supermarkets or shops or visit licensed

premises, even if over the age of 18 years, whilst under the school’s authority.

* Pupils may not bring alcoholic drinks into school, even if given to them by parents, guardians or friends.

• Infringement of these rules is viewed as a serious disciplinary offence to be dealt with within the usual

disciplinary framework of the school, involving parents where appropriate, but aggravated or repeated cases

may result in exclusion (either temporary or permanent).

1. **Policy on over-the-counter medicines; prescription only medicines such as anabolic steroids and benzodiazepines; new and emerging drugs (NEDs).**

* The school abides by ‘the Administration of Medicines’ Policy as far as over-the-counter medicines and prescription only medicines are concerned. These will have been provided following a referral to a medical practitioner or a pharmacist; once handed in, they will be kept safely and securely within the school for pupils to take as prescribed.
* New and emerging drugs may only be brought into school to be used by pupils if, following a referral to a medical practitioner or a pharmacist, they have been prescribed by the medical practitioner or pharmacist. Once handed in, they will be kept safely and securely for pupils to take but only as prescribed.
* All such substances, if on the school site, must be known about and approved by the school prior to their arrival.
* Infringement of these rules is viewed as a serious disciplinary offence to be dealt with within the usual disciplinary framework of the school, involving parents where appropriate, but aggravated or repeated cases may result in exclusion (either temporary or permanent).

1. **Policy on illegal substances such as heroin, cocaine, ecstasy, amphetamines, LSD, cannabis, magic mushrooms, and volatile substances such as aerosol propellants, butane, solvents and glues**

* The school rules forbid the possession (and thereby the consumption or supply) of any of these products to pupils, by pupils or between pupils.
* Pupils must not bring any such products into school, even if given to them by parents, guardians or friends.
* Infringement of these rules is viewed as a most serious disciplinary offence to be dealt with within the usual disciplinary framework of the school, involving parents where appropriate. Pupils involved with such illegal substances are advised both here, and through the dissemination of information in school, that they risk permanent exclusion from the school for such infringement, and will most likely find their actions referred to the Police.

1. **The School’s teaching and learning programme in relation to Keeping Children Safe in Education.**

This is a whole-school policy. It is also a School Safeguarding Policy.

The School:

• as part of its general aim of promoting a healthy and responsible life-style, Myddelton College includes Substance Misuse education within its PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) and Science programmes and Assemblies, and seeks to promote a culture which discourages the misuse of such substances,

• seeks to provide a network of pastoral care to ensure that pupils feel that the sympathetic support and advice they need are available, particularly at times of pressure and stress,

• endeavours to raise pupils’ self-esteem and develop their sense of satisfaction with their own lives as well as their ability to handle peer pressure, so that they may be less prone to turn to the misuse of common substances, to include all other artificial stimulants or depressants,

• will liaise with and involve other agencies in substance use and misuse education as appropriate,

• recognises the need to work in partnership with parents, and will always be willing to provide information and advice if requested,

The School recognises it has a duty of care towards its pupils for keeping them safe as far as possible. With this in mind, the Personal Social Health Education programme recognises:

* boys and girls may wish to discuss many of the aspects raised in the school rules with tutors and pastoral heads, as well as their parents;
* as young people mature and become increasingly responsible for their own lives, safety and health, they must interpret how they behave and respond to the availability of substances. However, the school considers it has a responsibility to young people and their parents to make its position clear about the misuse of substances as required in legislation, and as required by the Directors and Governors of the school;
* The school takes its responsibilities conscientiously - of providing education, explanation and justification, where required, towards its stance on the use of substances;
* As young people move from Myddelton College into higher education, further study, apprenticeships or employment, they will hopefully be in a position to provide for their own safety as a result of the foundations and grounding for life and independent living laid down by both their parents and Myddelton College.