



Campion School

Drugs Management & Sanctions Policy

Dated: Nov 2024

Review: Nov 2026



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Drugs Management and Sanctions Policy

Policy details

Date of policy: November 2024

Date of next review: November 2026

Review may involve: *e.g. School staff, pupils, parents and governors.*

Member of staff responsible for overseeing that this policy is implemented and regularly reviewed: Steve Bolsover

Signature (Chair of governors):

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Paul', written in a cursive style.

Signature (Head teacher):

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Bolsover', written in a cursive style.

Date: November 2024

The Headteacher, Governors and Staff of Campion School are aware of the growing problems in society regarding the availability of and use and misuse of drugs, specifically amongst the teenage population. It is our intention to keep Campion School a drug-free environment. Whilst we recognise the importance of supporting the individual, it is our aim to make the safety and welfare of all the students in the school our priority.

Definition

- The DfE has defined drugs in this context as: 'Drugs are those that are legal, such as alcohol, tobacco and solvents and prescribed drugs, and illegal drugs such as cannabis, ecstasy, heroin, crack/cocaine and LSD' (DfE Website)

School Policy and Sanctions

Legal Substances:

Any legal drug that falls into the category of psychotropic or psychoactive will be considered / sanctioned in the same way as an illegal drug.

Illegal Substances:

The Headteacher and any Governor Exclusion Panels will comply with the law and consider all of the facts of the case, along with any mitigating evidence. However, unless there are compelling reasons the most likely outcome would be permanent exclusion in any of the following circumstances:

- Any student possessing drugs and bringing them in to school
- Any student using (injecting, snorting, smoking - including taking a 'drag' - or ingesting in some other way) drugs Class A, B or C
- If a student smokes a cigarette (an activity forbidden in school) that subsequently turns out to contain cannabis or any other Class A, B or C drug

The only exception that would not lead to a likely outcome of permanent is where, in the first instance, the Headteacher is satisfied that the student was not knowingly **in possession** of the drugs and subsequently this viewpoint is upheld by the Governor Exclusion panel. This would be, for example, when a student is found to be in possession of drugs after another student has placed them on their person, without that person's knowledge or consent.

In some cases, where there is no clear-cut evidence, a decision will be made on the 'balance of probability'.

Solvents:

If a student is caught in the possession of solvents or has used solvents he/she will receive a fixed term exclusion. The school will advise a referral to the appropriate support agencies and parents will be asked to follow this through.

Alcohol:

If a student is caught in the possession of alcohol or is deemed to be under the influence of alcohol, he/she will receive a fixed term exclusion. The school will advise a referral to the appropriate support agencies and parents will be asked to follow this through.

Tobacco:

If a student is found to be in possession of tobacco products or is caught smoking the consequences will be as set out in the Behaviour Management policy.

Procedure for dealing with a drug related incident:

- Any student who is suspected of having used or being in possession of any substance will be isolated and questioned, by a member of the Senior Leadership Team, in the presence of an adult witness, e.g. member of staff (typically though not necessarily a House Learning Leader).
- All discussions MUST be recorded in writing and the student will be asked to write a student statement.
- Any illegal substance confiscated must be locked away. It may be passed to the Police or destroyed. If the school is asked to destroy this, then this must be done with a witness present and the facts recorded.
- The school reserves the right to ask a student to empty bags, pockets or lockers where there is any suspicion that the student has a drug in his/her possession. Such searching will be carried out by a member of staff of the appropriate sex in the presence of a senior member of staff.
- For school visits all of the above will apply and the party leader will contact the Headteacher and inform of any incident. Parents will be requested to make appropriate arrangements to collect the student.
- In all incidents parents will be contacted at the earliest opportunity.
- Parents will be invited to seek medical advice, where appropriate, and school will provide the appropriate contacts.
- Information relating to the possession and/or supply of illegal drugs will be passed to the Police.
- Information relating to the activities of anyone outside school connected to the incident will be passed to the Police.