

Bradford Grammar School

Drugs and Drugs Education Policy

This policy applies to the Senior School and is published to parents, pupils and employees.

This policy has regard to guidance from the Department for Education Guidance and Association of Chief Police Officers - drug advice for Schools (September 2012)

Issued 01 September 2015

For the purposes of the School's Drugs Policy, the term "drugs" covers alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, medicines, "legal highs" (i.e. substances with stimulant or mood-altering properties whose sale or use falls outside current drugs legislation) and volatile substances (i.e. glues, gases and aerosols). Electronic cigarettes and shisha pens (i.e. alternatives to cigarettes as delivery systems for nicotine and tar respectively) will be treated in the same way as cigarettes.

Bradford Grammar School (the "School") condemns and will not tolerate the misuse of drugs by members of the School and the illegal possession of drugs on the School campus. This policy extends to all activities, trips and events organised by the School outside the hours of the School day.

Dangerous and/or illegal drugs are forbidden in School and any pupil found in possession of them, under the influence of them, or to have supplied them to others at School will be temporarily excluded from School and risks permanent exclusion.

Supplying a pupil with an illegal drug outside School which is then brought into School is also classed as misuse, as is possessing an illegal drug on School premises without having been party to its purchase or import into School.

Possessing or using alcohol or tobacco on School premises or in the vicinity of the School is not allowed. Pupils found smoking cigarettes in School, in the vicinity of School or on School activities may be temporarily excluded from School.

Whenever there is an incident involving the use or supply of illegal drugs on School premises or during a School activity, the School will inform the pupil's parents and the police may be contacted. The Head will consider any such situation individually, but it is very likely that any pupil involved will be permanently excluded.

The School holds that all pupils, employees and parents have a duty to take action when they become aware of the misuse or possession of illegal drugs.

1. Possession of drugs in School

- If an employee suspects that a pupil is in possession of drugs, they should not attempt to search the pupil. The pupil should be escorted immediately to a Head of Year, the Pastoral Director or Deputy Head.
- The pupil will then be asked to cooperate in a search for the suspected drugs (a minimum of two teachers should be present during the search). If the pupil is found to be in possession of drugs, the substance should be confiscated and immediately

delivered to the Head or Deputy Head. Schools are not required to inform parents before a search takes place or to seek their consent to search their child.

- Following a search, whether or not anything is found, the School shall make a written record of the person searched, the reason for the search, the time and the place, who was present and note the outcomes and any follow-up action. If a pupil refuses to cooperate in a search, the police will be asked to take over the investigation. The pupil's parents must be informed as soon as possible.
- If a pupil is found to be intoxicated and drug use is suspected, medical help should be sought from the School Nurse. If necessary, first aid procedures appropriate to a medical emergency should be followed and an ambulance called.

2. Drugs education

The School has a duty to educate and inform its pupils on the consequences of drug use and misuse, including alcohol and tobacco. It aims to promote an understanding of the dangers to health and personality posed by the misuse of all drugs, legal and illegal, and the wider consequences of such behaviour. It seeks to equip pupils with the skills to make informed decisions.

Drugs education is delivered through the Personal Development programme, within which the School seeks, in an age-appropriate way:

- to provide information about substances which is accurate and up-to-date;
- to enable pupils to learn about the dangers and consequences of drug misuse;
- to equip pupils with the knowledge, attitudes and skills needed to avoid the misuse of drugs;
- to widen understanding of the related health and social issues (e.g. AIDS and HIV, crime); and
- to enable pupils to identify sources of appropriate personal support, both within the School pastoral system and outside it.

The School will act with sensitivity towards any pupil who wishes to seek help to overcome a drug related problem. If an employee suspects that a pupil is at risk, they should tell the Head of Year immediately. If a pupil discloses to an employee that they are taking drugs, the employee should make it clear to them that they cannot guarantee confidentiality, but that the issue will be dealt with sympathetically. The Designated Safeguarding Lead must be informed if the child is at risk of harm.

Where a pupil has been identified as having experimented with illegal drugs or has sought help within School, appropriate counselling and support will be provided by the School's pastoral team.

3. Drugs advice and helplines

The following organisations and helplines offer advice to parents and pupils on drug-related issues.

- Talk to Frank: 0300 1236600 (<http://www.talktofrank.com/>) – the Department of Health's National 24 hour Drugs Helpline;
- NHS Direct (<http://www.nhs.uk/livewell/drugs/Pages/Drugshome.aspx>) – for drugs information and directories of relevant organisations;
- The Bridge Project: 01274 723863 (<http://www.bridge-bradford.org.uk/>) – a drugs treatment charity based in Bradford;
- Release: 020 73242989 (<http://www.release.org.uk/>) – an organisation specialising in drugs information and advice;

- YPDAS (Young People's Drug and Alcohol Service): 01274 436744 (Helpline 0800 0730271) – an outreach service for young people in the Bradford area; and
- Bradford and Airedale Recovery System: 0845 050 8465 (<http://www.bradfordrecoveryssystem.org.uk/young-peoples-services.html>) – substance misuse help and advice.