

DRUGS, ALCOHOL & SMOKING

1. The use of drugs or banned substances, the consumption of alcoholic drinks, and smoking are all serious disciplinary offences, and will be dealt with accordingly. Alongside our sanctions policy is a constructive educational programme of lecture and discussions on illegal drugs as well as other important health issues such as alcohol, tobacco, diet and exercise.

2. Drugs and Banned Substances

- 2.1 Anyone caught possessing, consuming or distributing illegal drugs or banned substances, or actively encouraging their possession, while under the school's jurisdiction in term time, loses any right to membership of the school and must expect to be expelled. In some cases there may be mitigating circumstances; if so, they will be carefully considered.
- 2.2 The Head has the right to inform the police of the possession, consumption or supplying of an illegal drug, since it constitutes a criminal offence.
- 2.3 Pupils suspected of taking drugs will be subject to a urine test, conducted under strict supervision. Details of the testing procedure are available to parents on request. If the only firm evidence that a pupil has been involved with illegal drugs is a positive urine test, she may be allowed to stay provided that she:
 - 2.3.1 gives a written assurance to the Head and to her parents and guardians that she will not become involved with illegal drugs again;
 - 2.3.2 agrees to undergo urine tests at various times during her remaining school career.
- 2.4 Any subsequent offence including a positive urine test result will always lead to expulsion.

4. Unauthorised Possession and/or Consumption of Alcohol

- 3.1 The possession and/or unsupervised consumption of alcohol on school premises is forbidden.
- 3.2 Under some circumstances in the Sixth Form permission to consume wine may be given by the Housemistress on the occasion of a special celebration (eg birthdays). Permission should be sought well in advance from the Housemistress; only specified limited amounts of wine will be allowed. Alcoholic spirits are never allowed.
- 3.3 Infringement of these rules concerning the consumption of alcohol will be treated as a serious disciplinary matter.

4. Smoking

- 4.1 Smoking is strictly forbidden on school premises. In all cases if girls are suspected of smoking either by association with a group or by smelling of cigarette smoke, parents will be informed. Where girls have been found to be smoking, parents will be informed of the offence and the following penalties will apply:

The following sanctions apply to those suspected of smoking in the grounds:

1st offence – £25 donation to a cancer charity, a letter home and a weekend detention

2nd offence – suspension

- 4.2 Further offences will have cumulative sanctions and exclusion will be implemented at the discretion of the Head.
- 4.3 Anyone found smoking or suspected of smoking by association, inside a building will face automatic exclusion because of the dangers to other people's lives and to the school property. It is also a requirement of the school's insurers that there is no smoking within the buildings.
