

Sligo Grammar School



SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

Smoking, alcohol and narcotics

6.1 Smoking/Vaping

There is a total ban on pupils smoking. Every effort is made so that a pupil will not start smoking or, if already smoking, to encourage a cessation.

If found smoking in the school or grounds, or while wearing the school uniform, the pupil is liable to the following punishments:

- 1 A letter sent home.
- 2 Suspension.

6.2 Alcohol

Pupils are not allowed to import or consume alcohol in the school or grounds, or on trips. A pupil caught is liable to immediate suspension, and in extreme cases, expulsion.

6.3 Banned or Prohibited Substances

These are defined as any banned or prohibited substance including all substances covered by the Misuse of Drugs Act, non validated prescription medication, all alcohol, solvents and tobacco, and also includes any items that may be deemed to be used in the taking of illicit substances.

Believing implicitly that involvement on the part of pupils of the school in the use of, supply of, possession of, or the organisation of supply of illegal substances,

- (a) detrimentally affects the school based performance and behaviour of the pupils concerned, and other pupils.
- (b) detracts substantially from the harmonious operation and safe environment of the school.

Further conscious of the need to support those members of our community who find themselves drawn into any of the above activities:-

The School

- 1 Prohibits the use of, possession of, supply of, or the organisation of supply of illegal substances by pupils of the school on the school grounds, or school based or related activities.
- 2 Reserves the right to require that pupils suspected of involvement in the use of, possession of, supply of, or the organisation of supply of illegal substances, present for medical examination as determined by the school in consultation with the parents/guardians concerned.
- 3 Reserves the right at its absolute discretion to impose the following sanctions:-
 - A To expel from the school pupils found to be in breach of the policy which prohibits the use of, possession of, supply of, or the organisation of supply of illegal substances, on school ground or school based activities or trips.

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B To require in the event of a pupil testing positive for the **FIRST** time under the policy which reserves the right to request that pupils suspected of involvement in the use of, possession of, supply of, or the organisation of supply of illegal substances, present for medical examination as determined by the school in consultation with the parents/guardians concerned, during their enrolment in the school, to enrol in a counselling programme as determined by the school in consultation with the parents/guardians concerned.

C In the event of a pupil testing positive for a **SECOND** time during their enrolment in the school, under the policy which reserves the right to request that pupils suspected of involvement in the use of, possession of, supply of, or the organisation of supply of illegal substances, present for medical examination as determined by the school in consultation with the parents/guardians concerned, he/she will be expelled.

D In the event of a pupil testing negative, under the policy which reserves the right to request that pupils suspected of involvement in the use of, possession of, supply of, or the organisation of supply of illegal substances, present for examination as determined by the school in consultation with the parents/guardians concerned, the School reserves the right to continue investigations into the use of, supply of, possession of, or the organisation of supply of illegal substances.

E In the case of refusal to accede to the school's reasonable request for medical examination the school reserves the right to impose sanctions which may include expulsion from the school based on the evidence then subsequently available to the school.

No disciplinary sanction will be imposed on a pupil arising from a drugs related incident, until an investigation has been conducted by school management, in accordance with Section 8.1 hereof.

Drafted 2014

Passed by BOM November 2014

Passed by BOM November 2016

Policy Reviewed and updated by Board of Management: 21st January 2019

Signed _____
Chairperson, Board of Management

Date _____

Signed _____
Principal

Date _____

Due for next review: Jan 2021