

Substance Misuse Policy

Substance abuse is a nationwide problem, which we cannot ignore. Llandovery College is concerned at its effects, not only on the individual but also fellow pupils, the family and on the community at large. This policy sets out to recognise the responsibility of all members of the school community to make our safe and secure from those risks.

The school is determined to ensure that any incidents of substance abuse on school premises, to and from school and on organised school trips, will be treated as a serious breach of school rules; the Warden and Trustees expect the full co-operation of all pupils, students, staff and parents or guardians in this matter.

Where preventative work fails and pupils are found to be in possession of a prohibited substance in school the school will:

- Inform parents, seek their co-operation and if necessary counsel them about effective ways of solving the problem, including liaison with specialist agencies.
- Apply an appropriate punishment for breach of the school rules.
- Report breaches of the law to the police.
- All suspicions and allegations will be fully investigated and all parties will be informed

Tobacco

Pupils found in possession of cigarettes/tobacco/lighters or matches or seen smoking will be interviewed by staff. The matter will then be brought to the attention of the Housemaster or Housemistress. In most cases parents will be notified, and the pupils monitored in close liaison with, parents/guardian.

Pupils above the legal age for purchasing cigarettes/tobacco found to be procuring such substances for under- age pupils will be punished. Under- age procurers will also be punished and their source of supply, where known, will be reported to the police. Frequent offenders will be punished with increasing levels of sanctions.

Solvents

The parents, of pupils who are under the influence of solvent abuse, will be contacted and the pupil will be excluded from school immediately. The parents will be offered advice, and will be assisted to contact the appropriate specialist agency for counselling if they so wish, and on return the pupil will be counselled and monitored.

Illegal drugs

Pupils suspected of drug abuse, or showing evidence of drug abuse will be monitored closely and if suspicions are confirmed then the parents will be notified.

Pupils found in possession of illegal drugs and/or are known to be supplying illegal drugs to others will be immediately suspended/permanently excluded from school, depending on the circumstances, under the normal policy for exclusion. The policy will be reviewed annually.

Alcohol misuse is considered in a separate policy.

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