



Draft Policy Statement

Drugs, Alcohol and Banned Substances Policy

- **Produced by: Mr R Lynn**
(Using guidance from DfE and ACPO)
- **Ratified by:**
- **Review Date: Autumn Term 2017**

Drugs, Alcohol and Banned Substances Policy

This policy has been developed using DfE and ACPO (Association of Chief Police Officers) drug advice for schools.

This policy is an appendix to our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and should be read in conjunction with our Behaviour Policy.

Kepier is committed to upholding high standards and expectations of all of its learners and staff. Kepier takes a zero tolerance approach to the misuse of drugs and alcohol on its premises.

Purpose

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 places a statutory duty on schools to promote learners' wellbeing. Kepier has a clear role to play in preventing drug misuse as part of our pastoral responsibilities.

The Government's Drug Strategy 2010 ensures that school staff have the information, advice and power to:

- Provide accurate information on drugs and alcohol through education and targeted information, including via the FRANK service;
- Tackle problem behaviour in schools, with wider powers of search and confiscation;
- Work with local voluntary organisations, health partners, the police and others to prevent drug or alcohol misuse.

This policy is designed to inform staff, parents, learners and visitors clear our expectations, interventions and actions we will take in relation to drugs, alcohol and banned substances.

Where and whom the policy applies

This policy applies to all learners, staff, visitors, parents and partner agencies.

This policy applies to our school premises, during Educational Visits, Work Experience, Residential Trips, the journey into school and to those learners who are educated off-site.

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Definitions and terminology

For the purpose of this policy the following definition of a drug will apply: "a substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave."

This board definition includes:

- Illegal drugs
- Psychoactive Substances (so called 'legal highs')
- Volatile Substances
- Alcohol
- Tobacco

- Prescription medication taken by someone for whom it has not been prescribed or which has been taken in a way that does not comply with the school's Managing Medication Policy.
- Paraphernalia associated with any of the above.

Kepler's stance towards drugs health and the needs of learners

Legal drugs and prescribed medication

Please see specific policy on "Supporting Learners at school with medical conditions".

Staff with key responsibilities for drugs

As substance misuse is primarily a safeguarding concern the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs D Walker) has responsibility for Drugs, Alcohol and Banned Substances, supported by Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (Mr Lynn and Mrs Read).

Staff support and training

Kepler recognises the need for "Early Help" and the role we can play in intervening early to support learners and their families. Teachers and support staff will receive training to support them in identifying learners who would benefit from Early Help.

Teachers and support staff will receive drug and alcohol training suitable to their role within school as part of their ongoing development.

Drug and Alcohol Education

All learners will receive regular information and guidance on drugs and alcohol as part of their Cultural and Wellbeing Education.

Drugs and alcohol will feature regularly as part of SMSC activities during coaching time and in assembly.

Learners will take part in lessons delivered appropriate to the age and development of the learner.

Kepler will often invite appropriate outside speakers and agencies to lead classes on drug and alcohol misuse.

Management of drugs at Kepler and on school trips

If a member of staff, visitor or partner agency suspects a learner is involved in substance misuse or in possession they should inform the learners Year Manager without delay. In the absence of the learners Year Manager, you should contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs D Walker) or

deputy (Mr R Lynn or Mrs S Read). There is always DSL cover. Ways to contact the Designated Safeguarding lead are posted throughout the school or ask at the Main Office.

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Learners suspected to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be removed from lessons where the situation will be assessed and monitored by a DSL and the Year Manager. Advice and guidance will be sought from First Aid. Parents will be contacted and asked to collect their child in order to seek further medical advice. If necessary a search will be conducted. If a learner is aggressive or threatening or needs urgent medical assistance, Emergency Services will be contacted.

Should a medical emergency arise where drug or alcohol misuse is suspected, a First Aider will be called who assess, support and manage the learner following First Aid procedures. The learner's parents will be contacted and advised of the incident.

If a child is felt to be at risk, staff have no option but to follow the Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedure and contact Children's Services and/or the Police.

Searching

This section should be read in conjunction with the Discipline and Behaviour Management Policy.

Under Part 2, Section 2 of the Education Act 2011, the Principal is able to authorise staff to search learners search for any prohibited item including but not limited to tobacco and cigarette papers, as well as illegal drugs and alcohol without the consent of the learner if they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the learner is in possession of a prohibited item.

The following staff groups have been authorised by the Principal to search learners in situations as described above: Senior Leadership Team, Senior Pastoral Leaders and Year Managers.

Searches should be conducted in accordance with the procedure in the Discipline and Behaviour Management Policy.

Confiscation

A member of staff carrying out a search can confiscate any item they consider to be a prohibited item. This includes "Legal Highs", any suspected drug paraphernalia, or any other potentially harmful materials that cannot be immediately identified.

Items confiscated will be sealed in a plastic bag or envelope and stored in a secure location (the Principal's Office). The Police will be contacted in line with agreed protocols.

Where drugs are found on a school trip, the local Police will be informed.

Police involvement

Possession of controlled drugs including "Legal Highs" is illegal and the Police will be informed. Where we receive "soft" information in relation to suspected use, possession or dealing outside of

school, this information will be shared with Police as “intelligence”, this includes any geographical areas that are suspected to frequent by members of the public to misuse drugs and/or alcohol.

Kepier has a positive and effective working relationship with our Neighbourhood Police. Information is regularly shared between the agencies for the purpose of safeguarding, crime detection and prevention.

Parents / carers under the influence of drugs on school premises

When dealing with parents/carers under the influence of drugs on school premises, staff should attempt to maintain a calm atmosphere. If a teacher has concerns about discharging a pupil into the care of a parent/carer then alternative arrangements should be considered, e.g. asking another parent/carer to accompany the pupil home. The focus for staff should always be the maintenance of the pupil’s welfare rather than the moderation of parent/carer behaviour. Where the behaviour of a parent/carer under the influence of drugs repeatedly places a pupil at risk, or if they become abusive or violent, the school should consider whether to invoke child protection procedures or involve the police.

Work with external agencies

Kepier works closely with external agencies who share our aims and objectives and who support learners and families. We work particularly closely with YDAP (Youth Drug and Alcohol Project) in Sunderland and Lifeline in Durham who provide drug and alcohol related services to learners and their families.

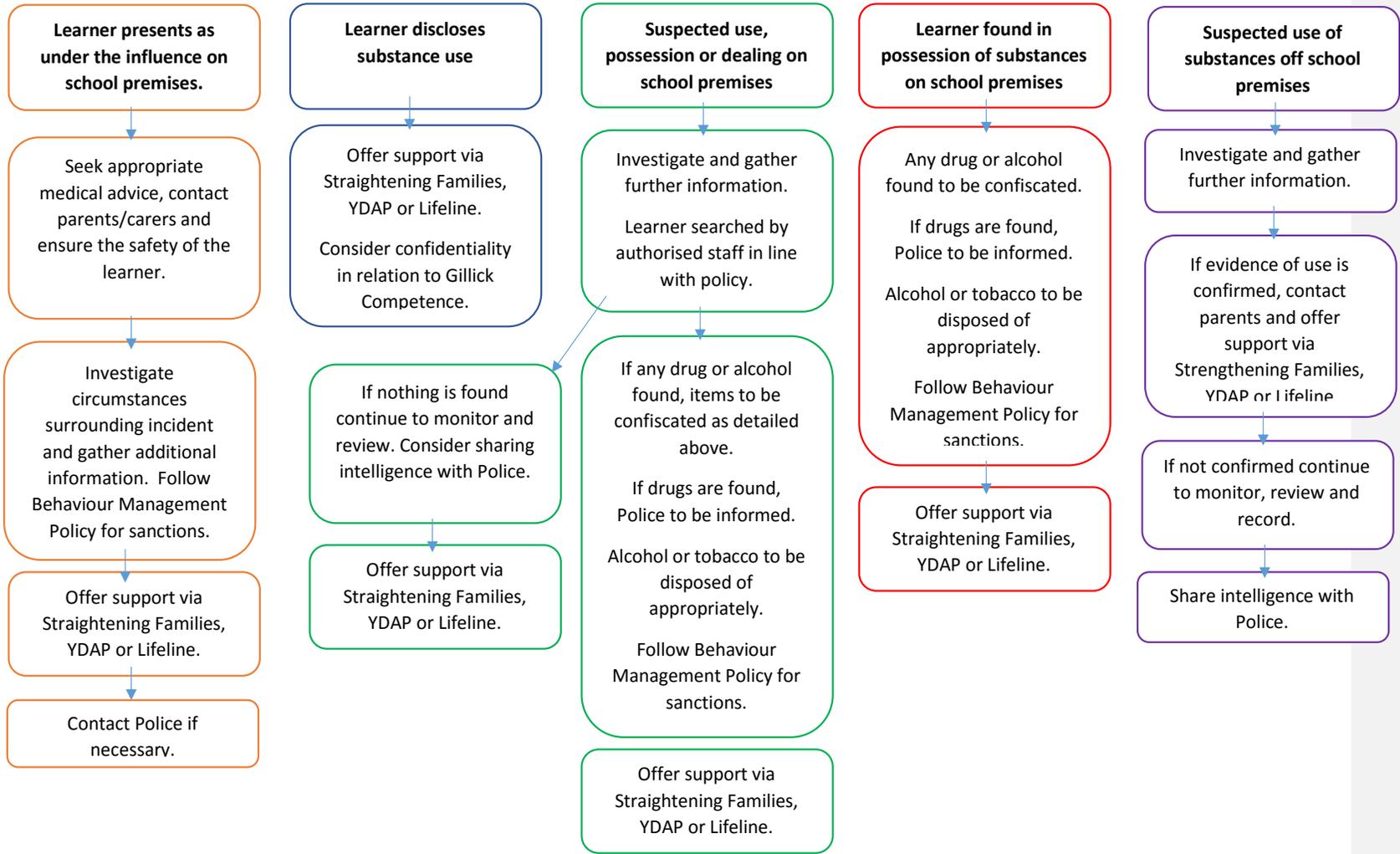
Information sharing

Please refer to the Information Sharing Protocols in the Child Protection Policy.

The role of governors

As part of their general responsibilities for the strategic direction of the school, governors have a role to play in the development of the schools policy on drugs. In accordance with the recommendations of the National Healthy Schools Status, a governor should be appointed with specific responsibilities relating to the provision of drugs education and policy development, although this is not a statutory requirement. The designated governor should contribute to any case conferences called, or appeals against drug related exclusions. Governor training should be arranged if required. Safeguarding Link Governor – Andrew Slassor.

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Consideration of exploitation, safeguarding and child protection to be central to this process.

Police, YDAP/Lifeline will be contacted at any time for information or guidance.