

**SAGE COLLEGE – POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

# BANNED SUBSTANCES POLICY

## 1.1 Introduction

The local police work in partnership with the school; they may be requested to provide students and staff with information in relation to the school curriculum, PSHE topics or information regarding incidents which may relate to banned substances and items.

These substances / items include, but are not restricted to:

- weapons, eg knives
- alcohol
- illegal drugs
- any substance that may be harmful or toxic
- cigarette lighters
- stolen goods
- tobacco products, eg cigarettes, vaping or juuling devices
- pornography
- fireworks or firecrackers
- anything that has been, or is likely to be, used to cause injury or commit an offence
- anything banned in the school rules
- As a school we do not wish to criminalise children and young people.
- Legal Drugs: Police do not need to be involved but parents will be informed. The school may inform the police about the inappropriate sale or supply of tobacco (including vapes and juuls) alcohol or volatile substances.
- Illegal Drugs: The school has no legal obligation to report drug related incidents to the police. Nevertheless, not informing the police may prove to be counter-productive for the school and the wider community. SLT may inform the police if they consider it appropriate, bearing in mind: the quantities involved, the vulnerability of those concerned and the possible impact on the school and the community or where local intelligence may be of help.

Random bag, locker and possibly clothing searches will take place regularly. Every effort will be made to persuade students to do this voluntarily. There should be 2 members of staff present during the search. However, when a student refuses to voluntarily show SLT the contents of their bag, pockets in clothing or locker etc then the locker will be sealed and the school bag confiscated until a parent / carer or in extreme cases, the police arrive. Any uncooperative student will stay with a member of SLT and the school psychologist until their parent / carer or police arrives at school.