



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.



1.2 Sage College Anti-Smoking Policy

At Sage College, we are committed to fostering a healthy and safe environment for all members of our school community. Our anti-smoking policy extends to all areas of the school premises, including outside the school gates, and applies to students, staff, and visitors alike.

Policy Statement:

1. **Smoking Prohibition:** Smoking, including the use of electronic cigarettes and vaping devices, is strictly prohibited within the school grounds and in the vicinity of the school gates. This prohibition applies at all times, including during school hours, after-school activities, and school-sponsored events.
2. **School Uniform:** Students are expected to uphold the standards of the school uniform both on and off school premises. Smoking while wearing the school uniform, whether inside or outside the school gates, is considered a violation of school policy and is subject to disciplinary action.
3. **Off-Site Events and Activities:** Our anti-smoking policy extends to off-site events, excursions, and activities organised or sponsored by Sage College. Students are expected to adhere to the school's guidelines and expectations regarding smoking behaviour, regardless of location.

Disciplinary Measures:

In the event that a student is found smoking outside the school gates while in school uniform, the following disciplinary measures may be applied:

1. **Verbal Warning:** The student will receive a verbal warning from a member of the school staff, emphasising the seriousness of the infraction and the school's expectations regarding behaviour.
2. **Parental Notification:** Parents or guardians will be promptly notified of the incident and invited to discuss the matter with school administrators.
3. **Educational Intervention:** The student may be required to attend educational sessions or workshops focusing on the dangers of smoking and the importance of making healthy choices.
4. **Written Warning:** A formal written warning may be issued, documenting the incident and outlining the consequences of any future violations of the school's anti-smoking policy.
5. **Further Disciplinary Action:** Repeat offenses or failure to comply with the school's anti-smoking policy may result in additional disciplinary measures, including suspension or other appropriate sanctions.

Conclusion:

Sage College is committed to promoting a smoke-free environment that supports the well-being and health of all members of our community. We appreciate the cooperation of students, parents, and staff in upholding our anti-smoking policy and maintaining a positive and healthy school environment.

Thank you for your commitment to the health and safety of our school community.