

DRUGS POLICY

Aims

This policy covers the provision of drugs education within the curriculum and all aspects of the use or misuse of drugs by our students. St Albans Tutors conforms to the advice given in the DfES document "Drugs: Guidance for Schools" in all aspects of drugs education and drug related issues.

Definitions

The term drug is taken to include any substance which affects the way in which the body functions physically, mentally or emotionally, including all over-the-counter and prescription medicines, tobacco, alcohol and all illicit or misused substances

Drugs education

- Drugs education will be incorporated into the PHSE and citizenship education of Year 10 and year 11 students and as appropriate into GCSE science lessons.
- Drugs education will be carried out by the Vice Principal, other teaching staff and possibly by visiting health professionals, who will operate under the guidance of the Principal.
- Lessons and discussion sessions will aim to enable students to make healthy and informed choices in all aspects of their personal lives. This will be achieved through the development of their understanding about the effects of substances on themselves and others and the building of individuals' feelings of self-esteem.

Use of medicines

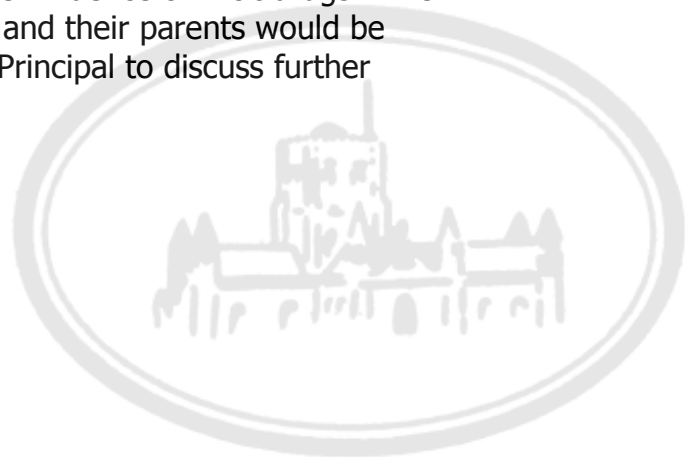
- Students/parents must inform the Principal or Vice Principal if they are required to take any prescribed medicine during the school day. Students will normally be expected to keep and administer the medicines themselves unless parents request otherwise.
- Students/parents are requested to inform the office of any prescribed medicine that is being taken out of school hours and the reasons for the medication.
- Students must also inform the Principal or Vice Principal if they are taking any over-the-counter medicines during the school day.
- If a student suffers a minor complaint during the school day (such as a headache) the Principal or Vice Principal may provide over-the-counter medication, a consent form must be signed by the parents of students aged 18 or under. The college will keep a record of the time and date of any medications given to students.

Tobacco and Alcohol Abuse

- Within the drugs education of GCSE students the dangers and disadvantages of smoking and alcohol abuse will be discussed and efforts made to dissuade students from such behaviour.
- Alcohol abuse is considered extremely detrimental to any student. Any incidents of the consumption of alcohol by students during school hours, or the suffering of ill effects due to previous consumption, will be investigated by the Principal and reported to parents.
- Smoking is not permitted inside the college, the college garden or in the alley beside the college.
- Students under 16 years old are not permitted to smoke at all within the vicinity of the college. If any members of staff see such students smoking the parents will be informed.

Illicit drugs

- St Albans tutors will not tolerate the use of or trade in illicit drugs by any of its students at any time.
- Any student considered to be under the influence of illicit drugs while at college will be sent home. Students and their parents would be required to attend a meeting with the Principal to discuss further action.



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