



# Wigston Academy

## Drugs Policy

<b>DATE APPROVED:</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
<b>APPROVED BY:</b>	Board of Trustees
<b>REVIEW FREQUENCY:</b>	Every 3 years
<b>DATE FOR REVIEW:</b>	January 2028

Signed by Chair of Trustees:

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025

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Wigston Academy has a robust policy towards the possession, use or supply of controlled substances and other unauthorised drugs within the school boundaries. Wigston Academy acknowledge that drugs can have a devastating impact on young people and their families. Drugs affect a young person's education and can prevent them from reaching their full potential.

The aim of this policy is to acknowledge and clarify the school's role in drug prevention and education. To reinforce and safeguard the health and safety of students and others who use the school. To clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities of staff and Governors.

1. **The role of the Senior Team**

The Senior Team takes overall responsibility for this policy and its implementation in liaison with the Governing Body, parents and appropriate outside agencies. The Senior Team will ensure that all staff dealing with substance issues are adequately supported and trained. The Head Teacher will take responsibility for liaison with the media, where required.

2. **Definition**

Drugs are defined broadly and include any substance that has the potential to affect how a person thinks, feels or behaves. This includes the following legal (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971) and illegal drugs:

- Cannabis, Heroin, Cocaine, LSD, Ecstasy, Amphetamines, Magic Mushrooms, Legal Highs, alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances, ketamine, khat, alkyl nitrites and over the counter prescription medicines.

3. **Extent of the Policy**

The limits of the school boundaries extend beyond the school premises to include all off-site student activities, such as work experience and school trips/field work/residential, etc. This policy applies at all times when staff 'duty of care' responsibilities apply and staff are aware of their responsibilities in relation to drug use on and off the school site (as described above). Individual exceptions may be made for students who require prescription medicines where appropriate. In these cases the school's policy on the administration of medicines will be followed.

4. **Drug Education**

It aims to increase students' knowledge and understanding of:

- Facts and laws about controlled substances, alcohol and tobacco use and misuse
- The personal and social consequences of use and misuse for themselves and others, including families and communities
- Develop students' personal and social skills to make informed choices to keep themselves safe and healthy, including:
  - Assessing, avoiding and managing risk;

- Communicating effectively;
- Resisting pressures;
- Finding information, help and advice;
- Developing self-awareness and self esteem

Drug awareness is delivered through PSHCE, Health Education, Science lessons and the Assemblies programme. It is delivered within a safe, secure and supportive learning environment. The teaching of drug education will be monitored and reviewed via the curriculum areas. The school will work with other agencies such as health professionals, Community Police, Social Services, Education Advisors to help deliver its commitment to Drugs Education and to deal with incidents of substance misuse. Teachers will have access to ongoing advice, support and training as part of their own CPD professional development through sessions with Pastoral staff.

#### 5. **Response to the misuse of drugs and their supply on the premises**

The school will not tolerate any student bringing / supplying or using an illegal substance on school premises at any time. Where it is suspected that substances are being used or sold on the premises, details regarding those involved will be passed onto the Police.

A student bringing a substance into school for their own use, or passing it on/selling it to others, will be liable to be permanently excluded at the discretion of the Head Teacher and will be subject to a Governors' Disciplinary Hearing.

(Supplying means giving or selling drugs to someone else, including friends. The law does not differentiate between supplying/giving drugs to friends and supplying for a profit.)

#### 6. **Helplines:**

Substance Advice Service (SAS) 01275 888360

FRANK 0300 123 6600

NSPCC 0808 800 5000

CHILDLINE 0800 11 11

Alcoholics Anonymous 0800 917 7650

Narcotics Anonymous 0300 999 1212

Turning Point <http://www.turning-point.co.uk/substance-misuse.aspx>