

Drugs Policy Summary

Rationale

Tobacco, tobacco related products, electronic cigarettes, alcohol, NPS (new psychoactive substances), illegal drugs, volatile substances and prescription drugs all exist in the world of our students and their families. Our school has a responsibility to inform and protect students, to support students living with drugs related issues within their family and among their friends. Drugs are very likely to impinge directly on the life of the school.

Ethos

Our Drugs Policy is developed within the Integrated ethos of our school. We acknowledge that a wide range of opinions and beliefs in relation to drugs will exist within our school community. Safety and well-being, and not judgement, will be at the centre of our approach.

Aims and Objectives

Our aims are to inform, protect from harm, build resilience, and to enable autonomous decision making, in empathy with others, in relation to drugs.

Our Drugs Policy is developed in the light of our whole-school ethos and pastoral policies, practice and curriculum.

Roles and Responsibilities

The designated member for drugs of our Board of Governors is Denise Medea

The designated staff member for drugs is Karen Caulfield, acting-principal.

Drugs Education within the Curriculum

Personal Development is an element of our pastoral programme and Learning for Life and Work, and includes drugs education. Elements of drugs education are also included within the science and philosophy and ethics curriculum. Input from external agencies is arranged as available and appropriate as a planned element within Personal Development. Students will be made aware of sources of information and support beyond the school, within the local community and online.

Responding to a Drug Related Incident

Our response to a drugs related incident will prioritise the safety and wellbeing of the student concerned and the whole student body. In dealing with a drug related incident, the principal will work closely with the student involved, with parents/carers, with the Board of Governors and with the PSNI.

A copy of the full Shimna Integrated College Drugs Policy is available on the school website and in hard copy from the school office.