

DE LA SALLE COLLEGE



DRUGS POLICY

“BE SOBER-MINDED; BE WATCHFUL. YOUR ADVERSARY THE DEVIL PROWLs AROUND LIKE A ROARING LION, SEEKING SOMEONE TO DEVOUR.”

1 PETER 5:8

Compiled by: The Head of College	Last Reviewed: June 2023
Policy Holder: Mr d. Sharrock	Revision date: June 2024
Oversight Governor: Tony Dubras	Verification date:

Sanctions:

Relevant legislation and guidelines issued will be considered. **The Head of College reserves the right to expel of any student involved in drug related activities. The bringing of any illegal substance onto school grounds, premises or on a school activity will lead to an automatic expulsion. This decision will be subject to a review by the Board of Governors.**

In coming to a decision the Head of College will always consider:

1. The welfare of other members of the school community.
2. The welfare of the student in question.

The Head of College will consult with the appropriate members of staff, in particular, members of the Senior Leadership Team.

Curriculum:

Drugs education forms an integral part of the PSHE programme offered to each student at De La Salle College, overseen by the Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for PSHE. It is also addressed through relevant aspects of the Science curriculum and is a whole school issue involving all staff thereby ensuring a coherent approach.

The Drugs Education programme aims to encourage students to be aware of external pressures and look at strategies enabling the individual to take responsibility for his/her own decisions thereby reflecting the importance of self-esteem. Students will learn an understanding of the effect and nature of drugs and their possible effects on the user linked to an understanding of the law in relation to drugs and drug taking.

The outline of the dangers of drug involvement will embrace:

- The physical dangers involved in consuming certain substances.
- The legal dangers of committing what amounts to criminal acts.
- The social dangers of involvement with the criminal drug fraternity.

Pastoral Approach:

Factors that will be considered are:

- The age of the student concerned.

- Whether incidents occurred inside or outside De La Salle College.
- The nature of the drug.
- Whether the student involved is using or dealing in illegal substances.

Where a student is suspected of being involved in the use / abuse of substances, or is associating with others who might bring him/her into contact with illegal drugs, the Assistant Headteacher will meet with the Head of College to inform him of the nature of the concerns.

The Head of College or Assistant Headteacher will subsequently make immediate contact with the student's parents to make them aware of the causes for concern. Parents will be reminded of the School's policy on drugs. Where appropriate, the Head of College or Assistant Headteacher will contact the police.

At all times, reference will be made to relevant Department of Education guidance related to the management of Drug related incidents in schools. The Head of College and other relevant personnel will have training and specific responsibility to ensure consistent application of this policy within De La Salle College.

The Head of College or Assistant Headteacher should be informed immediately of any drugs related matters. Individual staff must pass on concerns as outlined above and NOT attempt to deal with incidents on their own.