



BEAUCHAMP COLLEGE

Lionheart Educational Trust

DRUGS POLICY

JANUARY 2024 – JANUARY 2025



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Policy Statement for Drug Education

This policy is under continuous review by the Leadership Team and Governors because of the changing drugs landscape both nationally and locally. The acquisition of knowledge, understanding and skills which enables students to consider the effects of drugs on themselves and others is of vital importance. The ability to make informed and healthy decisions about the use of drugs should be part of a broad and balanced health education curriculum.

Rationale

Beauchamp College is committed to the health and safety of its members and will take action to safeguard their well-being.

The college will not tolerate the misuse of legal substances and/or drugs nor the use of illegal substances by members of the college, nor the illegal supply of them. The college has a no smoking policy for staff and students.

The college acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of young people through the general ethos of the college and will seek to encourage students in need of support to come forward to seek advice as well as to identify any concerns and direct guidance as appropriate.

Drug Education Programme

In response to our shared concerns at a local and national level, the college believes it has a duty to inform and educate young people on the consequences of drug use and misuse.

Health education is an important part of the college's SMSC provision, delivered largely through the taught PDC, RE and Science curriculum and also in tutor time, and assembly programme.

Specific aims of the policy with relation to drug education are:

- to provide accurate information
- to promote and develop positive attitudes and behaviour towards good health
- to enable students to make informed choices and reduce risks
- to increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse
- to understand strategies to deal with a 'drug offer' situation
- to enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal and professional support

Communication and Partnership

Fundamental to our college's values and practice is the principle of sharing the responsibility for the education of young people with parents/carers, by keeping them informed and involved at all times.

We believe that when adults working in schools have any evidence or strong suspicions about a young person's involvement with drugs, then the college has a responsibility to communicate concerns to parents/carers and offer guidance. We hope parents will respond positively to our comments. Equally we hope parents will feel able to let us know of things going on outside school because effective communication and co-operation is essential to the successful implementation of this policy. We work closely with Turning Point Drug Support Agency to ensure young people have the necessary support and guidance.



We use a school's power to request to search students' possessions and outer clothing should a suspicion be reported. This will always be conducted in pairs and a record of the search will be logged and parental contact made. A follow up dialogue will take place a few days after the search so the young person is aware of why we have taken this action.

Drug Related Procedures

Where a member of staff encounters a drug related incident their action should be guided by the following:

- Remember that staff looking after students under the age of 16 years are assumed to be acting "in loco parentis", and therefore have a duty to act as responsible and wise parents
- In any situation the well-being of students is paramount. Ensure that any (emergency) first aid that is necessary is quickly administered by making contact with the college Health and Wellbeing Officer or a first-aider. Keep any evidence that may assist in identifying substances that may have been consumed (including vomit) and ensure this evidence is made available to health professionals who accompany the student to hospital
- Remove any dangerous substance or item in the presence of at least one other member of staff
- If a student refuses to comply with a search then parents/carers/police will be notified and further action can be expected
- If students are found in possession of substances suspected of being a controlled drug, the member of staff should remove the substance and in the presence of a witness (any member of staff) and lock it away
- Gather any evidence that is readily available and may not be available later and take photographic evidence
- Make a brief written record of the incident and hand this to the member of staff acting as the drug incident liaison officer
- Parents/carers will be advised of any drug related paraphernalia found, and in accordance with our safeguarding responsibilities, it will be disposed of unless advised otherwise by the Police
- All drugs related incidents are ultimately under the jurisdiction of the Principal, who may delegate required action to a member of the Student Support Centre, Vice Principal or the college Health and Wellbeing Officer. The following actions will be taken as necessary:
 - interviewing of the students
 - gathering further evidence
 - informing parents
 - informing the police
 - informing the Chair of Governors

Summary of Procedures

In the case of legal drugs, cigarettes, vapes and vape oil and alcohol, the college follows a clear procedure:

- If a student is caught repeatedly smoking or vaping on the college campus, in the vicinity of the college or on an off-site visit linked to the college they may receive one or more of the following sanctions depending on the circumstances:
 - Loss of break/lunch privileges
 - Community service
 - Hosting of internal isolation at another Trust school



- In extreme circumstances suspension may be considered. This will be logged as a drug and alcohol related incident.
- Bringing alcohol to college or being under the influence of alcohol could result in suspension
- Prescribed medication may be taken at school after the necessary forms have been returned with parental permission. The medication would normally be lodged with the college Health and Wellbeing Officer except in those circumstances where the student is able to self-administer.

In the case of illegal substances:

- If a student is found in possession of an illegal substance at college they will, in all but exceptional circumstances, be suspended from the college and the police will be informed
- The college would consider the selling of drugs within the college to be a much more serious offence which would always result in permanent exclusion and police action
- In both cases parents/carers would be given guidance and the Chair of the Governing body immediately made aware of the situation
- The Principal would make recommendations to the Governors' Disciplinary committee based upon the individual student's record of conduct and the severity of the offence. Should the student be readmitted, he or she would be required to receive the relevant counselling.

In drawing up the policy the college has taken account of:

- Guidance from the DfE and the ACPO
- the LA's policy statement for drugs education.

All drug related incidents will be directed through the relevant staff in the Student Support Centre to include the Vice Principal/Principal.

[Links to other policies](#)

Beauchamp College Anti-Smoking and Vaping Policy (2024-2026)



Useful Organisations

ADFAM offers information to families of drug and alcohol users, and the website has a database of local family support services. Tel: 020 3817 9410 Email: admin@adfam.org.uk

Website: www.adfam.org.uk

Alcohol Change uk works to reduce the incidence and costs of alcohol-related harm and to increase the range and quality of services available to people with alcohol-related problems Tel: 020 3907 8480 Email: contact@alcoholchange.org.uk

Website: www.alcoholconcern.org.uk

ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) A campaigning public health charity aiming to reduce the health problems caused by tobacco. Tel: 020 7404 0242 Email: enquiries@ash.org.uk

Website: <http://ash.org.uk>

Children's Legal Centre operates a free and confidential legal advice and information service covering all aspects of law and policy affecting children and young people. Tel: 01206 714 650 (general queries only) Email: info@coramclc.org.uk

Website: www.childrenslegalcentre.com

Children's Rights Alliance for England - A charity working to improve the lives and status of all children in England through the fullest implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Email: info@crae.org.uk

Website: www.crae.org.uk

Drinkaware - An independent charity that promotes responsible drinking through innovative ways to challenge the national drinking culture, helping reduce alcohol misuse and minimise alcohol related harm. Tel: 020 7766 9900

Website: www.drinkaware.co.uk

Drinkline - A free and confidential helpline for anyone who is concerned about their own or someone else's drinking. Tel: 0300 123 1110 (lines are open 24 hours a day)

Drugwise is a centre of expertise on illegal drugs, aiming to inform policy development and reduce drug-related risk. The website includes detailed drug information and access to the Information and Library Service.

DrugScope also hosts the Drug Education Practitioners Forum. Tel: 020 7520 7550 Email: info@drugscope.org.uk

Website: www.drugwise.org.uk

FRANK is the national drugs awareness campaign aiming to raise awareness amongst young people of the risks of illegal drugs, and to provide information and advice. It also provides support to



parents/carers, helping to give them the skills and confidence to communicate with their children about drugs. 24 Hour Helpline: 0300 123 6600 Email: frank@talktofrank.com;

Website: www.talktofrank.com

Mentor UK is a non-government organisation with a focus on protecting the health and wellbeing of children and young people to reduce the damage that drugs can do to their lives. Tel: 020 963 2751. Email admin@mentoruk.org

Website: <https://mentoruk.org.uk>

National Children's Bureau promotes the interests and well-being of all children and young people across every aspect of their lives. Tel: 020 7843 6000

Website: www.ncb.org.uk

Family Lives - A charity offering support and information to anyone parenting a child or teenager. It runs a free-phone helpline and courses for parents, and develops innovative projects. Tel: 0808 800 2222 Website: www.familylives.org.uk

Re-Solv (Society for the Prevention of Solvent and Volatile Substance Abuse) A national charity providing information for teachers, other professionals, parents and young people. Text: 07496 959930 Information line: 01785 810762. Email: info@re-solv.org

Website: www.re-solv.org

Smokefree - NHS Smoking Helpline: 0300 123 1044;

Website: <https://www.nhs.uk/smokefree>