

## **POLICY NO: 23**

# **POLICY ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

### **Aim**

To provide a comprehensive and time-tabled alcohol, tobacco and drug Education programme for all students so as to provide, in so far as is possible, a safe environment for all.

### **Formulation of Policy**

Principal, Deputy Principals and RSE /Pastoral Care Team in consultation with Parents and the Board of Management.

### **Implementation of Policy.**

- Provision of honest and age appropriate information on drugs through the SPHE programme.
- Draw on the expertise and support of local organisations.
- Outside speakers and agencies will be involved as appropriate to reinforce work done in the classroom.
- Staff will be trained in alcohol, tobacco and drug education programmes.
- Parents will be informed of procedures on an ongoing basis.
- Parents will be informed by the Principal/Nominee in all cases of suspected use or possession, actual use or possession or dealing or suspected dealing.
- Disciplinary procedures will be applied if school rules are broken and expulsion will be an option if all other options have failed.
- Banned substances shall be confiscated in the presence of another teacher and a record shall be kept.
- In the case of un-prescribed drugs Social Services / Garda shall be contacted as appropriate.
- Students in breach of school regulations may be required to undergo counselling.
- Student conduct outside the school is a concern for the school management. All instances in and out of school is of concern and the Board of Management reserve the right to act in these circumstances.

### **Monitoring procedures**

Procedures will be monitored annually by the Principal and Deputy Principals.

### **Success Criteria**

- Less students starting to smoke tobacco / Students stopping smoking tobacco.
- A decrease in the number or frequency of students drinking alcohol at a very young age.
- The total absence of un-prescribed drugs from the school. School management should be informed if a students is on prescribed drugs.

### **Review Procedures**

RSE / Pastoral Care Team together with the Principal and Deputy Principals.

