



DANESMEAD, FULFORD CROSS, YORK YO10 4PB  
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# **YORK STEINER SCHOOL**

## **BANNED ITEMS & SUBSTANCE MISUSE POLICY**

<b>Approved by:</b>	Board of Trustees	<b>Date:</b> October 2021
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<b>Last reviewed on:</b>	October 2022
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<b>Next review due by:</b>	October 2024
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York Steiner School aims to provide a safe working and learning environment for both pupils and staff and to this end the whole school supports a no smoking policy. The day to day implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the whole School Community and everybody has a duty to respond to breaches of the policy.

## **Aims of the Policy**

This policy seeks to:

- Provide a non-smoking environment, both within the school building and grounds, that protects the health of the whole School Community and visitors to the school;
- To promote a healthy lifestyle and enable pupils to make responsible healthy choices. This is reflected within the School's PSHE curriculum by providing excellent role models for all children and adults within the school;
- Equip children with the social skills that enable them to resist the pressure to smoke or participate in the taking of banned substances, either from their peer group, or from society in general;
- To set the example of a health promoting smoke-free environment to the whole school and wider community in line with government guidance and local priorities to reduce the prevalence of smoking and the associated risks.
- The policy extends to the possession/ use of other items or substances that may cause harm to the individual pupil or other people in the school, including but not limited to the following:
  - (a) knives or other weapons
  - (b) alcohol
  - (c) illegal drugs
  - (d) stolen items
  - (e) tobacco and cigarette papers
  - (f) fireworks
  - (g) pornographic images
  - (h) any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or to cause personal injury or damage to property

Breaches of this policy by pupils will result in the involvement of their parents/carers. Staff who breach the no smoking policy will be advised that this could result in disciplinary action in line with the School's Disciplinary Policy and Procedure.

This policy extends to offsite activities that are part of this school. Staff, students and volunteers are advised not to purchase tobacco or alcohol products when abroad or in duty free whilst responsible for the care of the School's students.

### **Smoking, E-cigarettes and Vaping**

The School is a designated 'no smoking' area for Staff and visitors and we look to everyone to support this policy. Any persons who smoke or vape on the premises will be asked to extinguish the offending item/s and/or leave the premises. If any members of staff wish to smoke or vape, they must leave the School site to do so.

If a pupil were to be found, or were suspected of, smoking or vaping on School premises, the School Management Group (SMG) would be informed immediately. The pupil would be warned about the health risk smoking or vaping creates for themselves and others, parents/carers would be contacted, a warning will be given and all related paraphernalia confiscated.

If this is not effective and there is a recurrence, fixed term exclusion may follow and a meeting between the pupil, parents/ carers and teachers will then take place, at which the pupil's experience and attitude within the School would be discussed.

### **Substance Misuse – Alcohol/Drugs/Other Banned Items**

Alcohol is easily accessible and socially acceptable in most cultural groups. It is associated with risk taking behaviour and most young people have an awareness of alcohol and 'drinking behaviour'. It is a significant factor in deaths of young people and youth binge drinking is a nationwide concern within the UK.

If pupils are found with alcohol on the School premises, this will be confiscated and parents/carers informed. Pupils misusing alcohol in School, coming into School under the influence of alcohol or bringing alcohol into school to give or sell to other pupils are likely to receive a fixed term exclusion. Any arising anti-social behaviour may lead to permanent exclusion.

In the case of the use or possession of **alcohol, illegal drugs, prescription drugs, solvents, knives, guns or fireworks**, parents will be informed immediately and sanctions discussed including possible fixed term exclusion. Following any such exclusion, a meeting will be held between pupil, parents/carers and teachers before the pupil can be re-integrated, if that is thought possible.

Concern that pupils may be misusing volatile substances/ solvents or illegal drugs outside of school will trigger parental contact and referral to other agencies for help. In the case of all illegal substances, the School may be obliged to contact the Police.

### **Other**

Pupils are not permitted to bring chewing gum, sweets or fizzy drinks to the School.

Mobile phones, any electronic devices & personal entertainment technology must be turned off

and kept in students' bags out of sight and if seen will be confiscated and kept in the office until

the end of the School day. Please refer to the School's Mobile Phone Policy for further information.

**Related Policies and Documents:**

Behaviour Policy;

Exclusion Policy;

Mobile Phone Policy (Pupils).

