
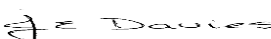


# Ysgol Bryn Gwalia



## Substance Misuse Policy

<b>Last Review Date</b>	January 2022
<b>Date to be reviewed by Senior Management Team</b>	April 2025
<b>Date Adopted by Governing Body</b>	April 2022
<b>Head Teacher – Mrs Lorraine Dalton</b>	
<b>Chair of Governors – Mrs Janiene Davies</b>	





## **Introduction**

The strategy 'Tackling Substance Misuse in Wales: A Partnership Approach' (2000) states that '*Substance misuse in Wales is a complex, dynamic and multifaceted problem*'. One of the main aims of the strategy is to help pupils and young people resist substance misuse in order to achieve their full potential in society.

This policy should be read and applied alongside the **Welsh Assembly Government Circular 17/02 'Substance Misuse: Pupils and Young People'** which replaces circular 54/95.

## **Definition of a Substance**

The word '*substances*' includes all mood and performance changing substances, both legal and illegal, and including prescribed drugs, alcohol, tobacco and solvents.

There is a clear policy on the administration of medicines. Pupils are acting unlawfully if they are supplying prescription drugs to others in school,.

## **Implementation**

The Head teacher and Governing Body have ultimate responsibility for the implementation of the Substance Misuse Policy.

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, the member of staff with responsibility for Substance Misuse is Lorraine Dalton, Headteacher

Governors may also be involved in disciplinary proceedings as and when required.

## **Awareness**

All Staff must be aware of the Substance Misuse Policy. Contact should normally be to:

- The Headteacher
- The Deputy Headteacher
- Child Protection Lead Person on the Governing Body

## **Media Contact**

Staff will not discuss or report incidents and/or issues concerning Substance Misuse to the local press or media generally. The Head teacher, in consultation with the LA and Governors will deal personally with all media matters. All media enquiries will be to be referred to the Flintshire County Council Press Office.

## Curriculum

Effective Substance Misuse Education will enable pupils to make responsible informed choices about their lives. It will not be delivered in isolation; this will work in conjunction within the Personal and Social Education (PSE) Framework for Wales, which underpins this Policy.

Largely, education about Substance Misuse will take place in PSE and Science lessons but will also be delivered through other subjects including English, Welsh and Drama.

Key Stage	PSE Framework	Wales National Curriculum Science Order
Foundation Phase	Understand that medicines are taken to make them better, but that some drugs are dangerous	Pupils should be taught about the role of drugs as medicines
2	Know the harmful effects, both to themselves and others of tobacco, alcohol, solvents and other legal and illegal substances	Pupils should be taught that tobacco and other drugs can have harmful effects
3	Know the effects of and risks from use of a range of legal and illegal drugs (including alcohol and tobacco) and the laws governing their use	Pupils should be taught that the abuse of alcohol, and other drugs affect health
4	Know the pattern of drug use (including alcohol and tobacco) in their community and beyond and where to get help, information and advice	Pupils should be taught the dangers of contracting HIV and hepatitis by the use of intravenous drugs.

## Delivery

At Ysgol Bryn Gwalia, pupils will learn about Substance Misuse Education using approaches that provide:

- Consistent accurate simple, clear information
- Informative and accessible reading materials
- Access to peers and credible adult experts, in addition to teachers/youth workers.
- Stimulating and enjoyable tasks
- Appropriate challenges in a secure environment , that enables all pupils to play a full and active part.

## Use of outside Speakers

Visitors from external agencies who are delivering Substance Misuse education, invited into the school they are visitors and will be seen as contributing to the school's agreed programme and not replacing it. Visitors delivering Substance Misuse Education will be involved in the planning of the full programme and contribute their specific expertise where required e.g Police School Liaison Officer, Youth Worker, Healthy Schools Co-ordinator.

## Complaints Procedure

Complaints about Substance Misuse Education should be made to the Headteacher or Senior Management Team, who will report to the Governors.

## Procedures for dealing with an incident

On becoming aware of incidents involving pupils and drugs, the staff member will report to the responsible staff member. Any incidents involving Substances or drugs should be communicated with the Headteacher or other responsible member of staff. The response will depend on the type and degree of risk reported.

**Immediate action is needed when there is a clear risk to safety, for example:**

Example	Action
<i>An adult collecting a child or young person appears to be under the influence of drink and/or drugs</i>	<b>Apply locally agreed child protection procedures, involve the police if adult is aggressive</b>
<i>A child or young person/adult appears ill or unsafe as a result of substance misuse</i>	<b>Consider obtaining medical advice, note relevant facts and inform parent/carer</b>
<i>Substances are being supplied on, or near premises</i>	<b>Contact police</b>
<i>There is ready access to controlled drugs</i>	<b>Contact police</b>
<i>The premise has potentially hazardous substance misuse related litter e.g. needles, syringes</i>	<b>Arrange safe removal of litter according to Health and Safety Policy, involve police if related to illegal substance misuse</b>
<i>Substance misusers behaving aggressively</i>	<b>Seek urgent police assistance to remove</b>
<i>A child/young person discloses that they are misusing drugs or their parent or other family members are misusing drugs</i>	<b>Contact social services or specialist substance misuse service for advice on how to respond.</b>

Exemplars above from WAG Guidance.

**Less immediate action e.g. observation, interview, consultation with other agencies, continued monitoring, may be appropriate when there are:**

- Generalised allegations or concerns about a particular pupil or family
- Refuted/inconsistent disclosures
- Concerns but no evidence of substance misuse or related harmful or criminal conduct (such as supply of drugs or other harmful substances)
- Concerns but no evidence of immediate risk to safety

**Actions requiring referral to other organisations include:**

- Investigation of criminal activity, including searching persons or personal property
- Apart from immediate first aid, any health or medical emergency which should be attended by appropriate medical personnel

- Assessment and providing support and services to vulnerable or troubled pupils and families should be referred to social services
- It may be necessary to refer to counselling and drug treatment programmes are normally accessible through fully trained staff

## **Contact with Parents**

There will be a reasonable attempt to contact parents to inform them that a search will take place. Parents do not have the right to prevent such a search nor to delay it unduly. The police are limited in their powers to detain a person in advance of a search. If parents can be contacted and are able to attend the school site, they will be escorted to the room in which the search will take place.

Parents will be informed of any drug related incident unless:

- There are child protection concerns
- It would interfere with a school investigation
- It would interfere with a police investigation
- It could result in greater harm to the child for another reason

Parents will normally be contacted directly by telephone in the event of proven drug usage. If it is suspected but not proven, the agreed police protocol will be implemented.

## **Contact with Police**

Officers will be briefed as to the nature of the allegation and will be expected to respond appropriately. When the parents are not present a member of school staff (teaching or non-teaching) will be present throughout the interview.

## **Procedure for dealing with a pupil after an incident**

It is not the role of the school to provide medical care to those under the influence of alcohol or drugs. If a pupil is at risk because of impaired mental state, parents should be contacted and required to take responsibility for their child. Failing that, any emergency contact will be asked to assist. Alternatively social services and police can be called for advice.

Staff will ensure pupil safety at all times.

## **Recording of Incidences**

Accurate, factual records of all Substance Misuse and related incidents will be recorded using:

- Incident Record Form
- Interview Record Form

## **School Visits and Procedures**

This policy applies to all school trips, visits and events organised by the school.

## **Child Protection**

Child Protection Procedures apply at all times.

## **Confidentiality**

Matters of Confidentiality will be applied in the same way as those of Child Protection.

## **Procedure for Dealing with Incidents Involving Staff**

Substance Misuse related incidents involving staff is subject to Flintshire County Council's Employment and Disciplinary Policy and Procedures.

## **Procedure for Dealing with Adults/ Visitors to School**

Where there is evidence that parents or carers arriving at school to collect pupils are under the influence of drugs or alcohol, Social Services or Police will be contacted in line with the Child Protection Policy.

All parents, carers or visitors appearing to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol on the school premises, they will be asked to leave immediately. The safety of the staff and pupils is paramount. Where illegal substances are involved, Police will be informed.

## **Disposal of Drug Paraphernalia**

Needles or syringes found on school premises will be placed in a secure. Used needles and syringes will be disposed of appropriately.