

HAPPY HOME ACADEMY DRUGS POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The use and abuse of alcohol, cigarettes, and other substances (such as performance enhancing drugs prescription drugs when not taken pursuant to an individual's medical practitioner's prescribed regime, inhalants) and illicit drugs are prevalent amongst adolescents in South Africa. H H Academy, in common with other school, has a responsibility towards addressing the problem of drug or substance abuse, both within the school environment and outside school hours.

The H H academy Drugs Policy aims to educate students about informed personal choice that promote personal well-being and maximize learning opportunities. The school has develop a policy with regards to drugs and young people that is designed to discourage students from using drugs, and for those who are already doing so, to prevent them from becoming drugs dependents. The Policy seeks to do this in three ways through:

PREVENTION: by providing information and strategies that assists in the prevention of drugs, and substance use and misuse

EXPECTATIONS: by clearly outlining the academy's expectations in regard to illicit drugs alcohol and tobacco, and correct use of prescription medications and other substances;

INTERVENTION: by identifying the processes that will be followed if a student is found to be in breach of the Happy Home Drugs Policy.

WHAT IS DRUGS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE?

Drugs and substance abuse involves the use of alcohol or tobacco by people under the age of 18 years, the use of illicit drugs and the misuse of medications and other substances.

PREVENTION

The H H Academy encourages a culture of drug avoidance both at school and at home. This is achieved through several initiatives:

A firm and clear statement on the abuse of drugs and other substances. The school's expectation is that students will not abuse drugs or other substances at school or school functions and the Academy will cooperate with parents in discouraging use at all times. This policy includes smoking, illicit drugs, alcohol, the misuse of prescribed medicines or other substances.

Drug Education. Education about drug and substance abuse is essential. This must start in primary school and continue throughout their education according to their development stage. Education involves the acquisition of knowledge about the potential harm of drugs, encouragement to make informed choices on drugs, and developing strategies to avoid using them.

For a number of years, the Happy Home Academy has offered an educational program designed to make students aware of the benefits of all being, and thus to give them the knowledge and confidence to make wise choices about their lifestyles. A significant part of this program is related to issues to do with alcohol, tobacco, pain relievers and illicit drugs.

The care education program closely linked with this educational program is H H Academy's overall philosophy which emphasizes the development of a sense of value and promotion of self-esteem in children and adolescents which is designed to help them develop spiritually, intellectually, physically and emotionally. Supporting this and also as a deterrent, is the school's intervention processes with regard to drug use.

A school response to the use of drugs Consequences in this context are concerned with transparent processes: informing parents and relevant agencies and interventions that assist rehabilitation.

A clear policy of working with parents /caregivers. with the common objective of guarding children from harmful drugs use or substance abuse.

EXPECTATION

Within the Christian tradition, each person is called to realize and live the dignity that comes with being human. Fundamental to living our dignity caring for our body. Caring for our body is a physical, intellectual, spiritual and moral activity. The school's expectation in regard to drug use is derived from a deep concern for and a holistic approach to, student's wellbeing. Drug and substance use and abuse compromises wellbeing and exhibits a failure to recognize our dignity as human beings. Therefore, this policy makes clear the school's expectation of students within HH, at HH function and at activities organized by HH Academy.

Alcohol

The school's policy is that students may not consume alcohol in them school, at any school function or at any activity organized by the school in any circumstance or in any company.

Tobacco

Student may not smoke at school, transiting to or from school, while wearing the school's uniform: while representing the school or attending the school's functions, unless otherwise indicated to be permitted.

Illicit Drugs

Students may not use any illegal substance at school to or from school, while wearing the school's uniform: at any HH function or at any HH organized activity, Students who traffic illegal drugs will be subject to a more formal follow up process involving police and parent/caregivers.

Prescription Medication

Students who need to take prescribed medication while at school must adhere to their doctor's recommended dosage and must not allow another student access to these drugs.

The student Name and dosage requirements for prescription medication must be clearly visible. This will be stored in a locked cabinet. The first Aid Officer will keep a record of the dosage, time and date of administration of medications.

Prescription to GET Learners

- Must have a note in their diary from a parent / caregiver or legal guardian notifying the school of her need to be using medication
- Must surrender medications to the First Aid Officer at Student Services Office unless this would inhibit a student's safety and wellbeing
- Must be administered in the student services Office
- Must notify he/her teacher when he/she is going to take medication.
- to take prescribed medications while at school

Year FET Learners

- Must have a note in their diary from a parent /caregiver or legal guardian notifying the school of her need to be using medication
- Are asked to surrender medications to the First Aid Officer at the students services Officer unless this would inhibit a student's safety and wellbeing.
- Are recommended to administer medications in the Students Services Office.

Inhalants

Students are not permitted to inhale solvents, Volatile substance or any other substance that alters their conscious state.

Possession of Drugs

Students are not permitted to possess drugs (except prescribed medications) at school, transiting to or from school; while wearing the School uniform: at any HH function or at any HH organization