

## SCHOOL SUBSTANCE USE POLICY

1. Alcohol and illegal substances are strictly banned by the school authorities.
2. Students are not allowed to bring alcoholic substances or illegal drugs to the school for personal use or sale or distribution. This restriction applies everywhere the student is representing the school e.g. trips/matches etc.
3. The Board of Management is obliged to inform outside agencies of drug offences, consequently teachers cannot guarantee confidentiality i.e. HSE, Gardai etc
4. Any student suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or an illegal substance will be immediately removed to a safe place by the Principal, until the parents are contacted and requested to escort the student home. At this stage, a referral to the discipline procedure will be made and appropriate action taken.
5. Students are offered a drug education programme within the context of Social Health Education classes. Parents are also offered drug education/awareness programmes under H.S.C.L. programme.
6. Pastoral support will be offered in the school to any known student with a drug or alcohol problem. They will be offered support and referred to counselling.
7. After following due procedure and considering the welfare of the whole school community, the decision of ultimate expulsion will rest with the Board of Management. In the case of an expulsion the Educational School Welfare Officer will be contacted.

We as a school understand that drug and alcohol problems can occur. Information can be given on onward referral to any parent who needs it.