



Will Adams Academy DRUGS POLICY

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school policies listed below-

RSHE Policy

Behaviour Policy

Child Protection Policy

School Name:	Will Adams Academy
Date Created/ Review Date:	January 2022
Next Review Date:	January 2023
Review Period:	Annually

Ethos of the School

Will Adams Academy encourages its students to dream, believe and achieve whilst providing a safe environment for them to do so. As such, the school takes a robust approach to any individual or group that violates our behaviour, drugs or anti-bullying policies. This policy is informed by the DfE and ACPO drugs advice for schools.

This is a rights respecting school; as such the responsibility to maintain high standards of behaviour lies with all members of school community. The school acknowledges its legal duties under the Equalities Act 2010 in relation to all protected groups including SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) and will always take their circumstances into account. It is our aim to help all students to be able to take their place safely in a world where a wide range of drugs exist.

Education and Prevention

As a school, we will ensure that age appropriate education and support is provided through RSHE lessons and tutorials. We may also take input from external sources throughout their time here and will always aim to ensure that this is provided by approved agencies. We also recognise the importance of training for staff and will make sure this is regular, up to date and context specific.

Definition of a drug

A drug is a substance that affects the way in which the body functions physically, emotionally or mentally. For purposes of this policy, by 'drugs' we are referring to illegal substances and also legal substances such as: alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances, over the counter or prescription medicines and new psychoactive substances. By Drugs Paraphernalia we mean items such as cannabis grinders, rolling papers, filters, matches, lighters and pipes etc.

Drugs on school premises

The legal definition of school premises includes everything within the property boundaries including buildings, outbuildings, playgrounds, fields and also extends to include other settings such as vehicles, boats, marquees or any venue managed by the school at the time e.g. premises of a school trip or visit.

● Medicines

The school has a policy/procedure for the administration of medicines that must be followed for everyone's safety. Please refer to our Administration of Medication Policy.

● Alcohol

No alcohol may be brought on to school premises or consumed during the course of a school day. Any adult (or staff, students, parents, carers and visitors) under the effects of alcohol will be asked to leave the premises and return at a later date for the safety of the

whole school. Parents will be asked to remove their children from the school and will be encouraged to seek immediate medical support.

● Smoking

The school premises are a no smoking site at all times. Students are required to hand in any smoking materials, including matches and lighters, when they enter the premises in the morning. Should a student be found in possession of any of these on school premises, they will be confiscated and any student found smoking on site, outside, will be issued with an after-school detention. Should a student smoke in a school building they may be asked to leave the school site and parents/ carers will be contacted to discuss the matter. If this action persists the student may receive a fixed term exclusion.

● Vaping

The school premises are a no vaping site at all times. Students are required to hand in any vaping materials, including the vape and additional oil(s), when they enter the premises in the morning. Should a student be found in possession of any of these on school premises, they will be confiscated and any student found vaping on site, outside, will be issued with an after-school detention. Should a student vape in a school building they may be asked to leave the school site and parents/ carers will be contacted to discuss the matter. If this action persists the student may receive a fixed term exclusion

● Illegal drugs and “psychoactive substances”

No illegal drugs, new psychoactive substances or Drugs Paraphernalia are allowed to be brought on to, or used on school premises. Bringing any such items onto school premises is considered a serious breach of this drugs policy and may result in a fixed term exclusion. Police will be informed via 101.

● Solvents

The school will ensure that potentially hazardous substances it authorises are stored safely, and students will be supervised if it is necessary that they come into contact with them in the course of their work. Students are not permitted to be in possession of solvents. Bringing solvents or hazardous substances onto school premises is considered a serious breach of this drugs policy and may result in a fixed term exclusion. Police will be informed via 101.

Management of Drugs within the school:

A drug incident may include any of the following:

- Finding drugs, or related paraphernalia, on school premises;
- Possession of drugs by an individual on school premises;
- Use of drugs by an individual on school premises (**this will result in the student using banned substances and any other student present with them being sent home from school**);
- Supply of drugs on school premises;

- Individuals disclosing information about their drug use;
- Student reports of parents, staff or students using drugs;
- Hiding drugs in or around the school premises for later collection (by themselves or by third parties).

Any response to drug related incidents needs to balance the needs of the individual student concerned with the wider school community.

Exclusion from school is not an automatic response to a drug incident but fixed term or permanent exclusion will be considered in serious cases where:

- There is a serious breach or persistent breaches of our Drugs and/or Behaviour Policies and
- Allowing a student to remain in Will Adams Academy would seriously harm the education, safety or welfare of the student or others in the school.

The Head Teacher and/or a member of the SLT will be responsible for co-ordinating the management of drug-related incidents, offering sources of support and liaising with outside agencies. Incidents will be dealt with after assessing the situation and all incidents and responses will be recorded on CPOMS within 24 hours.

Individuals in possession of drugs

If any student or adult on school premises is found in possession of an unauthorised drug it will be confiscated. If the drug is suspected to be illegal, the school will contact its police officer for discussion and advice. Illegal substances will be handed to the police to be legally destroyed as soon as possible and not stored. Parents and Carers will be informed (unless for safeguarding reasons this is not in the best interests of the student) and other professionals such as the local authority, Young Offenders Service, Police, Social Services will be informed or consulted as appropriate under school policies.

Confidentiality

Will Adams Academy will always seek to work with parents and carers when information or allegations of drug use are made. There may be occasions when, for safeguarding reasons, this may not be appropriate.

Complete confidentiality can never be promised to a student though information given in confidence will not generally be disclosed to anyone else. In particular if a student chooses to disclose that they are using a drug without medical authorisation, this information will not be used against them.

However, action will be taken to try to ensure the student comes to no serious harm if this is considered a risk. Regarding disclosures, staff will follow the advice given in the Child Protection Policy and log all concerns on CPOMS.

Support for students

At our school the welfare of the student is paramount and intervention will be made if the school feels a student is showing signs which indicate particular risks of, or from, involvement with drugs, whether their own or the involvement of their parents'/carers'. We believe that early intervention, where possible, is significant. Such interventions may include:

- Support and advice in school (Counsellor, Pastoral Manager, Form Tutor);
- Referral to specialist outside agencies for support, e.g. Open Road;
- Working with the Police.

Right to Search

In line with government legislation the staff at Will Adams Academy reserve the right to search students if they have reason to believe that they are carrying offensive weapons, illegal substances or anything that is illegal or dangerous. Similarly, students can expect to be physically restrained if they present a danger to themselves or other members of the community.

If inappropriate articles are brought into school or used inappropriately they may be confiscated and kept in the school safe for collection by Parents and Carers at the end of the day. If these items are dangerous or illegal they will be handed to the police for safe disposal.

Will Adams Academy works closely with police. If students are involved with any activity which breaks the law the police may be involved in the confiscation of items, Restorative Justice Conferencing*, unless there are reasons why this should not be the case (for instance, serious safeguarding concerns), group work and education as well as links with home. Parents and Carers will always be informed when the police are involved, unless a safeguarding concern prevents this and a referral to appropriate services will be made, and given the opportunity to attend any interviews. Similarly, the police will be involved if any student is suspected of having contact with an illegal substance. This includes possession, using or dealing. In such cases, the police will decide what course of legal action, if any, should be taken.

**Restorative justice conferencing is an approach to justice that focuses on the needs of the victims and the offenders, as well as the involved community, instead of satisfying abstract legal principles or punishing the offender.*

Useful Organisations

ADFAM offers information to families of drug and alcohol users, and the website has a database of local family support services.

Tel: 020 3817 9410 Email: admin@adfam.org.uk

Website: www.adfam.org.uk

Alcohol Change uk works to reduce the incidence and costs of alcohol-related harm and to increase the range and quality of services available to people with alcohol-related problems

Tel: 020 3907 8480 Email: contact@alcoholchange.org.uk

Website: <http://www.alcoholconcern.org.uk>

ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) A campaigning public health charity aiming to reduce the health problems caused by tobacco.

Tel: 020 7404 0242 Email: enquiries@ash.org.uk

Website: ash.org.uk

Drinkaware - An independent charity that promotes responsible drinking through innovative ways to challenge the national drinking culture, helping reduce alcohol misuse and minimise alcohol related harm.

Tel: 020 7766 9900

Website: <http://www.drinkaware.co.uk>

Drinkline - A free and confidential helpline for anyone who is concerned about their own or someone else's drinking.

Tel: 0300 123 1110 (lines are open 24 hours a day)

Drugwise is a Academy of expertise on illegal drugs, aiming to inform policy development and reduce drug-related risk. The website includes detailed drug information and access to the Information and Library Service. Tel: 020 7520 7550 Email: info@drugscope.org.uk

Website: www.drugwise.org.uk

FRANK is the national drugs awareness campaign aiming to raise awareness amongst young people of the risks of illegal drugs, and to provide information and advice. It also provides support to parents/carers, helping to give them the skills and confidence to communicate with their children about drugs.

24 Hour Helpline: 0300 123 6600 Email: frank@talktofrank.com;

Website: <http://www.talktofrank.com>

Re-Solv (Society for the Prevention of Solvent and Volatile Substance Abuse)

A national charity providing information for teachers, other professionals, parents and young people. Text: 07496 959930 Information line: 01785 810762. Email: info@re-solv.org

Website: <http://www.re-solv.org>

Smokefree - NHS Smoking Helpline: 0300 123 1044;

Website: <https://www.nhs.uk/smokefree>