



Drugs Use & Misuse Policy

Date Policy approved and adopted:	Spring 1 2026
Date Due for review:	Spring 1 2028
Signature of Head teacher:	
Signature of Chair of Governors	

Statement of Intent

St Mary's Catholic Primary School takes a zero-tolerance approach to the misuse of drugs and misuse of alcohol. The following policy applies to anyone on school premises including pupils, parents, volunteers, governors, visitors or outside agencies attending the School. The conduct of staff is addressed through their terms and conditions of employment and the Teachers' Standards.

The policy covers all buildings on school grounds including open areas within school boundaries and any vehicles on school grounds at any time. The policy also covers pupils when they are engaged in off-site activities.

We are committed to:

- Upholding the Health and Safety Policy already in place at St Mary's Catholic Primary School
- Providing a safe and healthy environment which is conducive to the education of the children in the school
- Providing a robust policy which outlines our zero-tolerance approach to drug misuse and alcohol misuse
- Developing and improving the policy by reviewing it after each event as required
- Educating pupils on the dangers of drug misuse and alcohol misuse

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy the word drug is defined as a substance which, alters personal perception and the way the body works. This definition includes, but is not limited to:

- Tobacco
- E-cigarettes
- Vaping materials
- Solvents
- Medicines
- Legal Highs
- Illegal substances

Outcomes

- The health, safety and welfare of all pupils of the school will be safeguarded

- All pupils will be educated with regard to the risks involved in drug misuse and alcohol misuse
- A pupil, member of staff or volunteer will be considered under the influence of drugs or alcohol if behaviour, speech or appearance is:
 - Affected by or
 - Suggests prior use of drugs or alcohol
- Pupils, staff and volunteers will not be under the influence of drugs or alcohol when on:
 - The school site
 - Travelling to and from school
 - School Trips, residential or activities of any other kind occurring off site
- Pupils will not be in possession of drugs or alcohol when on:
 - The school site
 - Travelling to and from school
 - School Trips, residential or activities of any other kind occurring off site
- Staff and volunteers will not be in possession of drugs when on:
 - The school site
 - Travelling to and from school
 - School Trips, residential or activities of any other kind occurring off site
- Staff and volunteers will not be in possession of alcohol for consumption whilst responsible for pupils when on:
 - The school site
 - Travelling to and from school
 - School Trips, residential or activities of any other kind occurring off site
- The whole school area including open spaces and the parish car park will be defined as a working environment and as such will comply with current legislation on smoking in the work place as part of the Smoke-free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006.
- Vapourisers or e-cigarettes are not allowed within any school building, open spaces within the school boundaries and the car park, which includes vehicles.
- Any person wishing to smoke or use a vapouriser or e-cigarette must leave the school site to do so, and are requested to go away from the pavement section immediately at the front of the school site when wishing to smoke or use a vapouriser.

Responsibility

The Head Teacher is responsible for dealing with any issues arising from drug misuse or alcohol misuse.