



Chew Valley School

Learn Grow Achieve

Headteacher: Gareth Beynon BA (Hons), MA

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01 September 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: **School Policy on Illegal Substances**

Schools can sometimes find themselves at the forefront of society's increasing problems with substance abuse. It may be helpful and reassuring for parents and carers to be reminded of the school's Policy in this regard. The Policy has been drawn up after consultation with the Local Education Drug Advisory Team, all secondary schools in B&NES, our local Primary Schools, and Avon and Somerset Police. It is a Policy shared across the LA and one commended as an exemplary model by OFSTED and can be found on the school website.

The key point from the Policy we would like to stress is as follows:

Procedures regarding illegal substances:

Each case will be judged on its circumstances but:

Any pupil who has brought an illegal substance to school and/or is caught in possession of an illegal substance in school or during a school organised activity or at any other time when the authority of the school pertains, will be **permanently excluded** from school, except in very exceptional circumstances. In all cases involving illegal drugs, the matter will be referred to the Police.

It should also be noted that the smoking of 'real' or e-cigarettes is not permitted. Any smoking equipment brought into school will be confiscated.

The full Policy contains details of the school's drug education curriculum which is a compulsory part of the wider Personal, Social & Health Education course [PSHE]. If any parent or carer would like a copy of the full Policy please contact the Head's PA, Mrs Seeley. If you would like to discuss any aspect of the Policy, please contact either your son or daughter's Head of Year or Mrs Rowlands, Deputy Headteacher.

Our Policy is designed to educate our young people but also to reassure parents and carers that we cannot, and will not, tolerate behaviour from individuals which poses a threat to the health and well being of others.

Given the importance of this issue, we need to be sure that all parents have received this letter. Please sign and return the reply slip to confirm receipt.

Yours sincerely,

Mr G Beynon
Headteacher

Mr B Wibberley
Chair of Governors

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REPLY SLIP – to be returned to the Headteacher via Heads of Year

Student's name Form

I confirm that I have received and read the Headteacher and Chair of Governors' letter concerning the **School's Drugs Policy** dated 01 September 2016.

Signed Date

