



LITTLE FLOWER ENGLISH SCHOOL

DUBAI

Policy on Drug Prevention

This policy & procedures are reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations.

Approved/ Reviewed by	
Policy Lead	MS. ANNIE MATHEW
Role	PRINCIPAL
Date of review	18-03-2025
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Signature	



Policy on Drug Prevention

Purpose

This policy aims to ensure a safe, healthy, and drug-free learning environment for all students and staff. It outlines preventive measures, educational initiatives, clear procedures for identifying and managing drug-related incidents, and appropriate disciplinary and rehabilitative responses.

Scope

This policy applies to:

- All students enrolled in the school.
- All staff, teaching and non-teaching.
- Parents and guardians, in their role as partners in prevention.
- Visitors and contractors within school premises or at school-related activities.

Policy Statement

The school is committed to:

- Preventing drug misuse through education, awareness, and early intervention.
- Supporting students who may be at risk through counseling and guidance.
- Enforcing a zero-tolerance approach to possession, distribution, or use of illegal drugs, while balancing discipline with rehabilitation opportunities.
- Complying with UAE federal laws, KHDA, and Ministry of Education regulations on drug prevention and control.

Definitions

- **Drugs:** Any substance, legal or illegal, which alters physical, emotional, or psychological functioning (including illegal drugs, prescription misuse, inhalants, vaping, alcohol, and tobacco).
- **Drug Misuse:** The possession, use, supply, or distribution of any drug prohibited by law or school rules.
- **Suspected Drug User:** Any student reasonably believed, based on evidence or behavior, to have engaged in drug-related activity.

Preventive Measures

- Curriculum Integration: Age-appropriate drug prevention education embedded into Health and Moral Education.
- Campaigns: Regular workshops, assemblies, and awareness days in collaboration with health authorities.
- Parental Engagement: Parent seminars to raise awareness about signs of drug misuse and prevention strategies.
- Staff Training: Professional development on identifying early warning signs, handling disclosures, and referral procedures.
- Positive School Climate: Promotion of wellbeing, extracurricular activities, and peer-support systems as protective factors.

Procedures for Dealing with Drug Use or Suspicion

1. Identification and Initial Response

- Any staff member suspecting drug use must immediately inform the Principal or the designated Health & Safety Officer (HSO).
- Staff must record observed behavior, physical evidence, or student disclosure in a confidential incident report.
- Students should not be directly accused without evidence; instead, concerns must be investigated confidentially.

2. Investigation

- The Principal/HSO will discreetly interview the student(s) involved.
- Searches of bags or lockers may be conducted in line with UAE laws and school regulations, and in the presence of a senior staff member.
- If drugs or related items are found, they must be safely secured and reported immediately to the local authorities, in compliance with UAE law.

3. Involving Parents

- Parents will be contacted at the earliest appropriate stage and involved in all proceedings unless advised otherwise by legal authorities.
- A meeting will be arranged to discuss findings, concerns, and next steps.

4. Support and Rehabilitation

- First-time or minor cases (non-possession, no distribution) may lead to counseling, behavior contracts, and referral to professional services.
- The school may require mandatory participation in a rehabilitation/awareness program under parental supervision.
- Confidentiality will be maintained except where disclosure is required by law.

5. Disciplinary Action

- Zero tolerance for possession, distribution, or repeated misuse.
- Sanctions may include suspension, expulsion, and referral to law enforcement authorities, depending on the severity.
- Decisions will align with KHDA/MOE guidelines and federal UAE laws.

Roles and Responsibilities

- School Leadership: Implement policy, ensure staff training, liaise with authorities.
- Teachers and Staff: Identify early warning signs, follow reporting procedures, and support students.
- Students: Adhere to school rules, avoid risky behavior, and support peers in making healthy choices.
- Parents: Partner with the school in prevention, monitoring, and intervention efforts.

Confidentiality

All drug-related incidents will be handled with strict confidentiality. Information will be shared only with individuals who must know (leadership, parents, authorities), in line with safeguarding laws.

Monitoring and Review

- Annual review of this policy to ensure effectiveness and compliance.
- Data on incidents, interventions, and educational activities will be monitored by the school leadership team.
- Feedback from students, staff, and parents will inform updates.

Success Criteria

- Increased student awareness of the dangers of drugs.
- Reduced incidents of drug-related behavior in school.
- Improved collaboration with parents and external agencies.
- Enhanced student wellbeing and resilience.