



Rossett School

Success for everyone

Substance Misuse Policy

2025-26

Approved by:	Full Governing Body
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1. The Policy's Development Process

This policy is informed by the guidance provided in the [DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools](#) (September 2012) and is reviewed annually.

2. The Context of the Policy and Its Relationship to Other Policies

This policy supports the school's commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students. It should be read in conjunction with the [Respectful Relationships and Behaviour Policy](#), [Safeguarding Policy](#), [Health and Safety Policy](#), and [Medical Needs Policy](#).

3. Where and to Whom the Policy Applies

This policy applies to all students, staff, parents, carers, visitors, and contractors on school premises, during school hours, and at any school-organised activities, including off-site trips and residential.

4. Definitions and Terminology

- **Drugs:** All illegal drugs, legal highs, prescription and over-the-counter medicines, alcohol, tobacco, solvents, and other substances that can be misused.
- **Vaping:** The use of electronic cigarettes or similar devices, regardless of nicotine content.
 - Vaping is prohibited on school premises and during all school-related activities. This includes:
 - All indoor and outdoor areas.
 - School buses and transport.
 - School trips and residential.
- Students found vaping or in possession of vaping devices will be subject to disciplinary procedures in line with the Behaviour Policy. Educational interventions will also be considered
- **Substance misuse:** The use of any drug or substance in a way that is harmful or hazardous to health or well-being.

5. Management of Drugs at School and on School Trips

- The possession, use, or supply of illegal or unauthorised substances is strictly prohibited.
- Medicines must be managed in accordance with the school's medical needs policy.
- Staff will follow clear procedures for managing drug-related incidents, including confiscation, parental contact, and safeguarding referrals

where appropriate. As in conjunction with the [Respectful Relationships and Behaviour Policy](#),

- Risk assessments will be conducted for school trips to ensure appropriate measures are in place.

6. Police Involvement

The school maintains a positive relationship with local police. Police may be involved in incidents where:

- Illegal substances are found or suspected.
- There is a risk to the safety of students or staff.
- Legal obligations require reporting.

The decision to involve the police will be made by the Headteacher or designated safeguarding lead.

7. Information Sharing

Information will be shared with relevant staff, parents, and external agencies in line with the school's confidentiality and safeguarding policies. The school will balance the need for confidentiality with the need to protect students and the wider school community.

8. The Role of Governors

Governors are responsible for:

- Approving and reviewing the policy annually.
- Ensuring the policy is implemented effectively.
- Supporting the Headteacher and staff in managing incidents.
- Ensuring staff receive appropriate training.