



RESPONSE TO ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, SMOKING AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

ALCOHOL

Langley School's response to alcohol is based on the principle of educating students in order to allow them to make informed healthy lifestyle choices. The safety, welfare and well-being of such students remain at the forefront of the content of this document, a result of which means that the school forbids the possession or the storage of, and consumption of alcohol by pupils and students except in the circumstances described below. The Law provides a framework for the provision of alcohol to those under 18, and Langley takes consideration of that, but such provision applies to students in the 6th form only.

Given the nature of the school, our responses have been divided into 3 sections – social functions on-site for day and boarding students (*this is extended to include school trips and visits – see Educational Visits Policy*), provision for boarders on-site and provision for boarders off-site.

Social functions:

Before organised functions where alcohol may be served, parental consent forms giving permission for student consumption of alcohol will be requested by the school in advance. There shall be no functions which allow pupils in Years 6-11 to be served alcohol.

There will be strict levels of supervision and safe storage of alcohol, with adults only (not 6th formers) serving; students will not be able to serve themselves or purchase alcohol. At such functions water and soft drinks will be freely available. Students will be allowed up to 2 beers/cider (based on 2x500ml max) or 2 standard glasses of wine. Any deviation by pupils will lead to a restriction of access to alcohol, followed by disciplinary meetings at an appropriate time in accordance with our Behaviour Policy.

Staff members must follow guidelines as set out in the Staff Code of Conduct and any deviations will result in our disciplinary procedures being followed.

Parent and Guardians are expected to support school policy by not bringing alcohol onto school premises or to school arranged functions.

Boarders on-site:

Circumstances (subject to current laws) may allow 6th formers (excluding any under the age of 16) to be given alcohol by staff under the conditions above (levels of supervision, storage and amount), as long as permission has been sought from parent/guardians. Any 6th former who is given alcohol must not consume it in areas where younger students may observe

them, nor in any area beyond where the staff instruct such limited consumption to take place. Staff may refuse to allow alcohol to any Sixth Former who has broken the terms of this policy previously or during a current event. The School Nurse or Parent/Guardian will notify the Head of Boarding and Head of Sixth Form if alcohol should not be consumed on account of a medical condition. If staff have suspicions of undeclared or illicit storage of alcohol, then they will exercise the right to conduct searches of pupils' property and areas in the correct manner. Given the seriousness of such transgressions, any pupil found in possession of alcohol under such circumstances can expect to be interviewed by the Head of Boarding and/or Deputy Head, parents/guardians to be informed and the appropriate sanction handed out, which could include exclusion from school.

Boarders off-site:

Boarders who are given permission to leave site are not to break the law, in terms of accessing alcohol during this time. In line with our Behaviour Policy, Boarders, regardless of age, should not return to Langley over the drink drive limit. If a boarder is following the law and planning to consume alcohol off-site, prior permission must be sought from parents/guardians and the Head of Boarding. If boarding staff suspect that a boarder has consumed alcohol without prior arrangement or is over the drink drive limit the staff reserve the right to breathalyse the pupil, using a standard approved unit purchased from Boots the chemist called 'AlcoSense' or appropriate equivalent. Parents/Guardians living locally may be asked to collect students.

When arranging leave-out from school (e.g. attending parties which involves overnight stays), if there is a suspicion that alcohol may be available, Boarding staff will contact host families to ascertain the level of safety in terms of lodging arrangements and the supervision of students at the function as well as finding out details of the duration of the stay. The school reserves the right to veto any arrangement which may impact the welfare of the student.

If a student is in breach of the terms set out above, disciplinary action will take place, as laid out in the Behaviour Policy. In addition, a student may incur charges for supervision if his/her condition warrants specific close supervision or attendance at medical facilities (£40 per hour). Parents living locally may be called to collect students so that they may be monitored at home. The health and well-being of the student will be taken into consideration when setting timings of disciplinary interviews.

The school reserves the right to act more severely if any incident warrants such a response and repeat offenders may also find their position in the school in jeopardy.

Parents and Guardians

If parents attending school premises appear to be under the influence of alcohol, this will be referred to a member of the Senior Leadership Team. If a member of staff suspects that a parent has driven or will drive whilst under the influence of alcohol, or there is a concern regarding the safety of a child in their care due to alcohol consumption, the member of staff should report the matter to the Senior Leadership Team and the Designated Safeguarding Lead will be notified. The Senior Leadership Team will follow our Safeguarding Policy and report to the Police and Children's Services as appropriate.

TOBACCO, SMOKING AND VAPING

The following information details how the School actively responds to the issue of smoking and vaping by pupils/students and describes the sanctions that may be imposed on those caught breaking the rules.

Langley strives to provide a healthy, safe environment for pupils, students, staff and visitors alike. Following the provisions of the Health Act 2006 the school declares itself to be a non-smoking establishment (save for designated smoking areas for adult employees and visitors on specified occasions). The school regards the use of e-cigarettes and equipment used for 'vaping' in the same light as all other means of smoking.

The school also prohibits the use of any other tobacco and nicotine related products

Tackling smoking and vaping

Pupils and students are actively discouraged from smoking through:

- effective education;
- effective and clear sanctions;
- effective policing.

Effective education

The short and longer-term effects of smoking and vaping are explored as part of the Personal Development Education programme, and all pupils/students are encouraged to involve themselves in promoting an anti-smoking, anti-vaping and anti-tobacco and nicotine culture.

The Medical Centre holds information about strategies to aid giving up the practice for those who are regular smokers, vapers and users of tobacco and nicotine products.

Pupils/students are encouraged to discuss worries about smoking/vaping/tobacco and nicotine with Pastoral staff, Medical staff and appropriate support staff so that they may receive support in the cessation of or abandonment of any habit. As part of this support, a health action plan approved by the school Medical Team will be put in place where necessary. It may be appropriate for a pupil/student to discreetly wear a nicotine 'patch'.

Effective and clear sanctions

As outlined in the section on Substance Abuse, if a pupil volunteers that they are a regular smoker or vaper, then they will be supported by the Medical staff to quit the practice, without sanctions, if disclosed voluntarily and without having broken the school's rules.

Sanctions will be issued for:

- smoking/vaping on the school site, on school transport or in the care of school during trips and visits;
- being in possession of smoking and vaping materials and paraphernalia, including vapes and other tobacco and nicotine related products
- being caught in the company of smokers and vapers;
- smelling of cigarette smoke or vape which indicates involvement with smoking and vaping;

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All sanctions will be issued as per the school's Behaviour Policy. In the event of involvement in a smoking/vaping-related incident the pupil/student will meet with a member of the pastoral team, who will liaise with the Deputy Head, a suspension will be issued, the length of which to be determined according to the circumstances. Any materials will be confiscated and destroyed; the pupil/student will be referred to the School Nurse for anti-smoking/vaping/tobacco/nicotine related education and guidance. If the pupil/student is a boarder and the incident occurs in boarding, the Behaviour Policy will be followed as above in consultation with the Head of Boarding. Parents/guardians will be informed of the sanction.

Further involvement, or in the case of a student being caught smoking indoors, will require the student to be interviewed by the School Head to include a review of the pupil's/student's position in the school, due to the fact that they are endangering others.

The school reserves the right to act more severely if any incident warrants such a response, and repeat offenders may also find their position in the school in jeopardy. This will be decided on a case by case basis.

Effective policing

Effective policing is intended to make it difficult for pupils/students to smoke/vape/use tobacco or nicotine products. Known smoking/vaping areas will be closely monitored on a regular basis by staff and prefects during the day and in the evenings.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Pupil/students' wellbeing is of paramount importance and Langley is committed to promoting a healthy and safe environment. At Langley we seek to deter pupils/students from using drugs in the first instance by having a thorough Personal Development Education programme.

Definitions

This policy covers the possession, use and supply of drugs and applies at all times, whether or not the student is in the care of the school.

“Drugs” means without limitation controlled drugs including Class A, B and C drugs. It also means solvents, aerosols, performance-enhancing drugs, anabolic steroids, mushrooms, nitrous oxide and other substances possessed or supplied in each case for purposes of misuse, such as psychoactive substances or prescription medication prescribed to others.

Education

Through our extensive Personal Development Education programme we aim to educate pupils/students about the potential short-term and long-term impacts on health from drug abuse. We strive to give our pupils/students the understanding and self-confidence to reject drugs, whilst taking measures to keep the school community protected from such misuse. These teachings also include an ethical dimension, designed to help the students understand the importance of complying with the law.

Detection and Enforcement

The school will take the following measures to detect and enforce this policy:

- Random visits from a detection dog service
- Searches of personal belongings, lockers and vehicles on school property
- Cooperation with law enforcement agencies

School Rules

- If a pupil or student is found to have brought drugs onto the school site, then they can expect to be expelled and the authorities informed.
- If a pupil or student is found to be supplying drugs to others, then they can expect to be expelled and the authorities informed.
- If a pupil or student is believed to be under the influence of an illegal substance whilst on school site, this will be referred to the Senior Leadership and Medical Teams, a search will be conducted and appropriate action will be taken. This will include notifying parents/guardians of the concern and may include seeking consent for drugs testing.
- The Police and Children's Services will be contacted as necessary.
- It may be necessary to suspend a pupil pending investigation and decision by the School Head.
- If a pupil or student is in the company of another pupil or student who are caught using an illegal drug (or any substance that contravenes this Policy) the School reserves the right to deal with the matter as a breach of School discipline. This will be termed 'involvement with drugs by association'.

Suspicion of misuse

If a member of staff has reason to suspect that a pupil or student is misusing drugs in, or out of, school, whether in term or holiday time, they must report the situation directly to the Deputy Head (Pastoral) and Designated Safeguarding Lead who will decide, in consultation with medical staff, if further investigation is warranted.

The relevant consent to a drugs test is that of the pupil/student and parent. If consent is not given by both parties, the parent/guardian will be requested to collect the pupil/student from School, pending meeting with the School Head. If the test proves positive, then the School's Behaviour policy will be applied accordingly.

A refusal by a pupil/student to undergo a test may be deemed as an admission of guilt and could be dealt with as if a test was returned positive.

If a pupil /student is found to have taken a prescribed drug that does not belong to them, the Medical Team and Pastoral team will liaise, risk assess, report to parents and if necessary and proportionate, the Behaviour Policy will be followed.

Policy Manager: Deputy Head Pastoral

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Testing procedures

All testing will be in line with good practice and will be taken under the supervision of the School's medical staff and a member of the Pastoral or Safeguarding Team.

Support

If a pupil or student comes forward and voluntarily identifies themselves as a drug user outside of school and asks for help, a risk assessment will be completed and we will signpost the individual to seek support from external services.

Support may also include the services of the School Counsellor or the 'Time to Talk' service as appropriate.

Contact with Police and External Agencies

If a pupil or student is found to be in possession of an illegal drug or substance or if a pupil has taken an illegal drug or substance, the school will inform the Police of the pupil's name and home address as requested. If it is deemed there is a safeguarding concern, the School will also contact Children's Advice and Duty Services. If drugs are found on site, they will be logged and stored securely. The Police will be notified so they can come to the School and take the drugs away to be officially destroyed. Pupils and students may also be referred to external agencies for support, these are listed in Appendix A.

Parents

Parent and Guardians are expected to support school policy by not bringing illicit substances onto school premises or to school arranged functions.

If parents attending school premises appear to be under the influence of a substance, this will be immediately referred to a member of the Senior Leadership Team. If a member of staff suspects that a parent has driven or will drive whilst under the influence of a substance, or there is a concern regarding the safety of a child in their care due to substance misuse, the member of staff should report the matter to the Senior Leadership Team and the Designated Safeguarding Lead will be notified. The Senior Leadership Team will follow our Safeguarding Policy and report to the Police and Children's Services as appropriate.

If the Senior Leadership Team reasonably believes that a child is at immediate risk of harm from a parent who is under the influence of a substance, the child will not be released into the care of the parent and the School's child Safeguarding procedures will be followed.

Appendix A – Useful Organisations

Addaction is one of the UK's largest specialist drug and alcohol treatment charities. As well as adult services, they provide services specifically tailored to the needs of young people and their parents. The Skills for Life project supports young people with drug misusing parents.

Website: www.addaction.org.uk

ADFAM offers information to families of drug and alcohol users, and the website has a database of local family support services. Tel: 020 7553 7640 Email: admin@adfam.org.uk

Website: www.adfam.org.uk

Alcohol Concern 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 7264 0510. Email: contact@alcoholconcern.org.uk Website:

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 7739 5902 Email: enquiries@ash.org.uk

Website: www.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 7307 7450 Website: www.drinkaware.co.uk

Drinkline - A free and confidential helpline for anyone who is concerned about their own or someone else's drinking. Tel: 0800 917 8282 (lines are open 24 hours a day)

Drug Education Forum – this website contains a number of useful papers and briefing sheets for use by practitioners: Website: www.drugeducationforum.com/

DrugScope is a centre 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. DrugScope also hosts the Drug Education Practitioners Forum. Tel: 020 7520 7550 Email: info@drugscopec.org.uk Website: www.drugscopec.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: 0800 776600 Email: frank@talktofrank.com Website: www.talktofrank.com

Policy Manager: Deputy Head Pastoral

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The Matthew Project is a charity which supports children and adults across Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex with drug and alcohol recovery and wellbeing.

[Drug and alcohol recovery | The Matthew Project | England](#)

Mentor UK is a non-government organisation with a focus on protecting the health and wellbeing of children and young people to reduce the damage that drugs can do to their lives. Tel: 020 7739 8494. Email admin@mentoruk.org Website: www.mentoruk.org.uk

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. Tel: 01785 817885 Information line: 01785 810762 Email: information@re-solv.org Website: www.re-solv.org

Stars National Initiative offers support for anyone working with children, young people and families affected by parental drug and alcohol misuse. Website: www.starsnationalinitiative.org.uk

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