

# THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF BAHRAIN



## School Drugs, Alcohol and Smoking Policy

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## **School Drugs, Alcohol and Smoking Policy**

### **1.0 General Statement of Policy**

- 1.1 The British School of Bahrain (BSB) tolerates neither the use of illegal/illicit drugs nor the misuse of alcohol or smoking by members of the School nor the illegal supply of these substances. The BSB is committed to the health and safety of its members and will take action to safeguard their well-being. The British School of Bahrain acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of young people through formal education and the School's general ethos; it will seek to provide the support pupils need to avoid the problems of such contraband as Drugs, Alcohol and Smoking. We believe that knowledge is power and so we ensure that age appropriate education and support is provided through the PSHE curriculum, science lessons and tutorials.
- 1.2 The British School of Bahrain is an alcohol, smoke and illegal/illicit drug free campus for all members of the BSB community. As such, the school takes a robust and zero tolerance approach to any individual or group that violates our School' Alcohol, Smoking and Drugs policy.

### **2.0 Linked to other Policies**

- 2.1 This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies: School's Behaviour, Rewards and Sanction Policy, Health and Safety, PHSE and the Child Protections and Safeguarding Policy.

### **3.0 Definitions**

- 3.1 A drug is a substance that affects the way in which the body functions physically, emotionally or mentally. For purposes of this policy, by 'drugs' we are referring to illegal substances and also legal substances such as: alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances, over the counter or prescription medicines and new psychoactive substances. By 'Drugs Paraphernalia' we mean items such as cannabis grinders, rolling papers, filters, matches, lighters and pipes etc.
- 3.2 The definition of the term 'illegal drug' for this policy refers specifically to those chemicals and materials as defined by the legislation currently in force in the Kingdom of Bahrain and any subsequent amendments.
- 3.3 An 'illicit drug' means (in this context) one that is not legislated for. This does not mean it is not dangerous - indeed they are hazardous to health – but they are not listed in the appropriate legislation.
- 3.4 The term 'into school' covers any incidents related to drugs or substances which occur in school time, inside or outside school grounds. It also includes travel between school and home; it includes sports fixtures, educational visits and other school-based excursions away from the school; and it includes sports tours, educational activities organised by the school in holiday time for pupils of the School.

## **4.0 Responsibility for Implementing the Policy**

- 4.1 The Executive Headteacher has overall responsibility for the implementation of the policy within the British School of Bahrain. On a day to day basis this responsibility is delegated to the Head of Schools and their Deputy Head Teachers. However, the Executive Headteacher does have overall responsibility for drug issues including managing drug-related incidents, liaising with the authorities in Bahrain and other external agencies where appropriate.
- 4.2 The Executive Headteacher will ensure that the British School of Bahrain Board of Governors is kept informed of relevant developments and issues, and any problems concerning the effectiveness of the School's substance abuse practice.
- 4.3 All staff will log incidents within the school information management system.

## **5.0 Prohibited Substances**

- 5.1 Use or possession of substances such as tobacco in any form, alcohol or illegal/illicit drugs, is unlawful and considered a major infraction of the British School of Bahrain rules. Use of these substances is unacceptable on campus or in the general vicinity of the school, either prior to, during or after school. This also applies to off campus school events and trips.

## **6.0 Violations and Consequences**

- 6.1 These regulations apply whenever school is in session and when students are engaged in school-sanctioned activities on school property or on other sites.

## **7.0 Drugs**

- 7.1 The British School of Bahrain in line with the laws governed by the Kingdom of Bahrain is an illegal/illicit drug-free campus. The use or abuse, possession, sale or distribution of non-medicinal mood-altering chemicals or other narcotic substances, drug paraphernalia, is prohibited and highly illegal at anytime on:

- 7.1.1 On school grounds,
  - 7.1.2 On school trips,
  - 7.1.3 At any school-sponsored activities, or
  - 7.1.4 While representing the school
  - 7.1.5 Anywhere within the Kingdom of Bahrain
  - 7.1.6 The transfer of legal prescription medicines between or among students, or their use by students other than those for whom they have been prescribed, is not allowed.
- 7.2 A student is considered in violation of the school policy on Illegal/illicit Drugs if he/she is:
    - 7.2.1 In possession of drugs;
    - 7.2.2 Distributing drugs;
    - 7.2.3 Selling drugs;
    - 7.2.4 Under the influence of drugs;
    - 7.2.5 In the act of using drugs;
    - 7.2.6 Knowingly in the presence of students in the act of possessing, distributing, selling, or using drugs.

## 8.0 Sanctions:

8.1 Anyone in possessing, supplying or using illicit/illegal drugs or substances whether in school or outside of school, during the school term or holidays, taking part in a School related activity, travelling to or from School or wearing School uniform will be immediately suspended for a three days pending a full investigation by the **'Discipline Committee'**. It is likely once the conclusion of this investigation that the students will be expelled and removed from the school in accordance with the School's Behaviour and Sanctions Policy and the MOE Discipline policy articles 5 & 7. The Police will also be informed.

8.2 Possible indicators that might lead to an investigation into drug or substance abuse

This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

8.2.1 Behaviour changes

8.2.2 Involvement in a drug incident

8.2.3 Particular peer group associations

8.2.4 Physical signs

8.2.5 Implication by association

8.2.6 Information received

8.2.7 Significant alteration in academic performance

8.2.8 Health or attendance

## 9.0 Procedure

9.1 The procedures followed will be in line with the School's procedures for dealing with major disciplinary incidents linked to this policy. [Appendix A:](#)

These procedures respect the 'duty of care' for the individual as well as the wider community.

## 10.0 Alcohol

10.1 The British School of Bahrain is an alcohol-free campus for all members of the BSB community. The use, sale, distribution or possession of alcohol beverages on campus, school trips, at any school sponsored activities or while representing the school is prohibited and against the laws of the Kingdom of Bahrain and guidance from the Bahrain Ministry of Education.

10.1.1 Bahrain law clearly prohibits alcohol consumption or the purchase of alcohol by persons under the age of 21 years. It is also prohibited for Muslims to consume or purchase alcohol. The school does not encourage students to drink alcohol;

10.1.2 Being drunk, intoxicated or in a disorderly state, inside or outside school, on school trips, at any school sponsored activities or while representing the school is prohibited for all members of the BSB Community.

## 11.0 Violations

11.1 A student is considered in violation of the school policy on alcohol if he/she is:

11.1.1 In possession of alcohol;

11.1.2 Distributing alcohol;

11.1.3 Selling alcohol;

11.1.4 Under the influence of alcohol;

11.1.5 In the act of using alcohol;

11.1.6 Knowingly in the presence of students in the act of possessing, distributing, selling, or using alcohol.

## 12.0 Sanctions

12.1 Anyone in possessing, supplying or consuming Alcohol whether in school or outside of school, during the school term or holidays, taking part in a School related activity, travelling to or from School or wearing School uniform will be immediately suspended for three days pending a full investigation by the '**Discipline Committee**'. It is likely once the conclusion of this investigation that the students will be expelled and removed from the school in accordance with the School's Behaviour and Sanctions Policy and the MOE Discipline policy articles 5 & 7.

## 13.0 Smoking:

13.1 It is the School's policy that the use, possession, sale or distribution of smoking material this including, but not restricted to cigarettes, tobacco, e-cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, cigars, electronic cigarettes, vapes and any other device used to smoke, off or in school grounds, on school trips, at any school sponsored activities or while representing the school is prohibited.

13.1.1 A student is considered in violation of the school policy on Smoking if he/she is:

13.1.2 In possession of smoking contraband;

13.1.3 Distributing smoking contraband;

13.1.4 Selling smoking contraband ;

13.1.5 Under the influence of tobacco/nicotine;

13.1.6 In the act of using smoking paraphernalia;

13.1.7 Knowingly in the presence of students in the act of possessing, distributing, selling, or using Smoking material.

## 14.0 Sanctions

14.1 Where a pupil breaches any of the School rules set out in this policy, the school will apply any Level 3 or above sanction which is appropriate and proportionate to the breach in accordance with the Behaviour and Sanctions School Policy, and the MOE Discipline policy (articles 5 & 7).

The following guidelines will apply:

## 15.0 Smoking

15.1 **1st offence:** A pupil may be internally suspended for up to 3 day and placed onto a head of year agreement.

15.2 **2nd offence:** A pupil will be externally suspended for a fixed term and placed onto a Deputy Head agreement.

15.3 **3rd offence:** The student will be suspended for three days pending a full investigation by the 'Discipline Committee'.where the pupil will likely be expelled and removed from the school in accordance with the School's Behaviour and Sanctions Policy and the MOE Discipline policy articles 5 & 7.

## **16.0 Prescription Medication**

16.1 The School Nurse must be aware of any prescription medication brought on to the School premises. Wherever possible the School Nurse should store and administer the medication. Any student suspected of abusing prescription medication will be given sanctions in line with the school Behaviour and Sanctions policy.

## **17.0 Searching students for items.**

17.1 The School' Executive Headteacher, Headteacher', SLT and staff authorised by the Executive Headteacher have the power to search pupils and their possessions, without consent, where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil may have a prohibited item such as illegal drugs, alcohol, other controlled substances or any smoking paraphernalia. The school can insist that the student will:

17.1.1 produce any items in their possession or that they have placed elsewhere in the school

17.1.2 Turn out the content of their bags, pockets,coats etc

17.1.3 Lockers can be searched at any time

17.1.4 All searches must be conducted in the presence of two authorised adults and must be of the same gender as the student involved in the search as per the protocols for dealing with major incidents. Any prohibited items found when conducting a search will be kept in the possession under lock and key of the Head' of school or the Executive Head. All items confiscated will be logged, tagged and bagged. All illicit/illegal drugs will be handed over to the Bahrain Authorities by the Executive Headteacher to be destroyed and disposed of in the appropriate way.

## **18.0 Partnership with Parents**

18.1 The vast majority of /children/teenage/adolescent involvement with drugs and other substances occurs out of school, both in time and place, when children are the responsibility solely of their parents. Therefore, effective partnership and communication between the BSB and parents is essential. Parents must feel that they are fully informed and involved in the school's practice with regard to smoking, alcohol and possible substance abuse. It is important that parents are able and willing to support the School's policy.

## **19.0 Working with Outside Agencies**

19.1 The School will support and promote local Kingdom of Bahrain health initiatives where they are soundly based and do not contravene the British School of Bahrain's ethos or moral teachings.

**19.1.1** The school will also support and implement any directives or guidelines given by the Ministry of Education.

## **20.0 Criminal offences**

20.1 The school, as directed by the MOE, will inform them of any disciplinary matters of a criminal nature, and also inform the relevant Bahrain authorities.