

DRUGS SUPPORT POLICY FOR STUDENTS

Revised June 2024

To be reviewed June 2025

Policy Aim

This Policy aims to support students with drug problems or potential drug problems

Support and Advice

Once a student has been suspected of drug use or found with drugs a decision will be taken by the Principal as to whether the student may remain in the college. This will be dealt with via the Alcohol, drugs and smoking Policy and the Promoting Good Behaviour policy.

If a student is suspected of drug use or found with drugs they will immediately be directed to their Senior Tutor (ST) and then the Director of Student Services (DSS), or other senior manager in their absence.

The ST will have a friendly sensitive talk with the student. Firstly to ascertain if there is any immediate danger to the student, secondly to ascertain what the longer term issues around care/abuse might be.

Procedures

The ST will explain that it is illegal to buy, sell, give or use drugs and the implications of being caught by the Police would be discussed: the possibility of being arrested and how this would jeopardize their future for University, work, visa application etc. The ST will also discuss the implications on health issues through abuse of drugs.

All student's conversations will be recorded onto Drugs Incident Report by the Assistant Principal Academic Administration.

The ST with the support of the DSS will then refer individuals to drug counsellors, outside agencies and other medical practitioners as deemed appropriate.

The ST will continue to support the student with regular check-ins (frequency pending each situation) and records will be added to the Drugs Incident Log.

The ST will discuss with the DSS what information is to be shared with the parents. Early communication, no matter how difficult, is best practice.

Help Organisations

Talk to Frank – www.talktofrank.com 0300 123 6600 24/7 support

Turning Point – www.Turningpoint.com 0300 0134 776, open 24/7 for support

Oxfordshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team - https://www.oxfordshiredaat.org/2012/OxDandAServices.htm

Rectory Centre, Rectory Road, Oxford, OX4 1BU

Monday, 12 noon until 7pm Tuesday to Fridays, 12pm to 4pm Saturday, 11.30am to 2.30pm