



SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

Substance abuse is a serious menace to our society. It is, therefore, imperative that everything possible be done to keep all drugs out of our school community, and the lives of all children. The school has a responsibility to educate students and parents to the dangers of substance abuse. To this end the subject is addressed within the P.S.E (Personal and Social Education) curriculum with the aid of external agencies. For this policy, a 'drug' means a substance listed in the First Schedule of the 'Misuse of Drugs Law (Cayman Islands)' and includes, but is not limited to, prescription and over-the-counter pharmaceutical substances.

A. SELLING, DISTRIBUTING OR POSSESSING DRUGS:

Where there is evidence, or reasonable suspicion, that a student is in possession of drugs, either for personal use or to sell or distribute, the High School Principal or Director will interview the student in the presence of a member of the High School Leadership Team.

An immediate search may be carried out by a member of the HSMT in the presence of another member of staff, and an investigation into the alleged offence will commence.

If evidence of an offence is found the School will notify the parents or guardians of the student, and the Chairman of the Board of Governors. A record will be made in the student's personal file and the student will be expelled.

If, following an investigation, the school decides that the student is not guilty of an offence, the matter will be closed.

B. SUSPICION OR EVIDENCE OF CONSUMPTION:

Where there is reasonable suspicion that a student has consumed drugs, the parents will be notified that the student will be required to undergo a drugs test to determine whether consumption of an illegal substance has taken place.

Refusal to undergo a test will be treated as if the test has proved positive.

Following a refusal to test or a positive test result for a first offence, the student will be externally suspended from CPHS for a period of up to five days. Readmission to the school will be at the discretion of the school and will require a written agreement to counselling and regular future testing for illegal drugs. A record will be made in the student's personal file.

A second 'positive' test will result in the student being expelled from CPHS.

The school will notify the Chairman of the School Board of all actions taken.

ALCOHOL POLICY

The school has a responsibility to encourage students to make informed and responsible choices and, to this end, the subject of alcohol consumption is addressed through the PSE (Personal and Social Education) programme.

The rules of the United Church of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands forbid the consumption of alcoholic beverages on school premises. Additionally, the consumption of alcohol by persons under the age of 18 years, whether on or off school premises, is against the law.

The school rules, therefore, strictly forbid:

1. The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages on school premises or on any field trip or activity organized by the school.
2. The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages while in school uniform.



3. Coming to school under the influence of alcohol.
4. Giving alcoholic beverages to another student.
- 5.

DISCIPLINARY MEASURES:

If a CPHS student is in breach of the school rules as outlined above the following action will be taken:

- The parents will be notified
- The student will be given a five-day external suspension
- A record of this will be made in the student's file
- The parents must agree to the student receiving counselling

The parents and student will be notified in writing that if there is a second alcohol-related offence the student will be expelled from the school