

ALCOHOL, CANNABIS AND DRUG USE BY STUDENTS

All forms of alcohol, cannabis, controlled substances and unauthorized drugs are prohibited in school buildings and on school property.

Students are not permitted to sell, or represent they are selling, dispense, or represent they are dispensing, possess, use, abuse, or be under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, cannabis-related products or controlled substances, on school property, or at school sponsored events off campus.

Parents of a student involved in alcohol, cannabis, cannabis-related products or any other drug abuse shall be contacted immediately by the School Administrator. The school authorities may contact the police.

Any student in violation of this policy may be suspended or expelled from school and/or referred to outside agencies for counselling assistance.

Guidelines

The following guidelines are to be followed in dealing with students who violate the alcohol, cannabis and drug policy of the Division.

1. Violation of alcohol, cannabis and drug policy is cause for disciplinary action according to Division and school progressive discipline procedures.
2. Students who are suspected of being in possession of, and/or under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, cannabis-related products or other drugs, must not be left unattended. If this situation arises in class, the Teacher will summon an administrator to the class for assistance.
3. The Administrator will be responsible for conducting an investigation of the situation and documenting all relevant information.
4. The Administrator will contact the parents immediately upon completion of the investigation and, if appropriate, contact the R.C.M.P. The Superintendent's Department is to also be informed.
5. Drug offences will accumulate over the entire period that a student is in a particular grade level section (e.g., 5-8, 9-12). Students will not get a fresh start each year.

Trafficking

When there is sufficient cause to believe a student(s) is supplying alcohol or other drugs to students, a 5 day suspension will result with a possible recommendation for further action, including expulsion, by the Board.

Suspicion of Use

Any cases of “suspected” use of alcohol, cannabis, cannabis-related products or other drugs by students during the school day or during any school function, must be reported to the school’s administration immediately by staff members.

1st Offence (other than trafficking)

- School Administration will suspend for 5 days;
- the 5 day suspension may be reduced to 3 days if both the parent and the student agree to an assessment with the school’s Addictions Foundation of Manitoba (AFM) Counsellor;
- the 5 day suspension will stand if the parent and/or the student do not agree to complete the AFM assessment;
- re-entry conditions and follow-up will be determined by the School Administration, which may include referral for alcohol/drug assessment and/or counselling services.

2nd Offence (other than trafficking)

- School Administration will suspend for 5 days, and where appropriate, recommend to the Superintendent’s Department additional disciplinary action;
- Superintendent’s Department may suspend for a minimum of 5 additional days;
- Re-entry conditions and follow-up will be determined by the School Administration and Superintendent’s Department, which will include referral for alcohol/cannabis/drug assessment and/or counselling services.

3rd Offence (other than trafficking)

- School Administration will suspend for 5-days;
- Further suspension of up to 6 weeks at the discretion of the Superintendent’s Department with the possibility of referral to the Board for expulsion from school;
- Must make arrangements to complete AFM alcohol, cannabis or drug assessment and counselling before re-entry to school.

At any time, if residential treatment is the option taken by a student and his/her family, the school will continue supports and connections with the student or will be available for such when called to do so.

School-Related Activities

In the event the policies are violated while the student is on a field trip or at a school-sponsored event outside of the school, the supervising staff member will contact the Administrator. The Administrator will be responsible for finalizing a plan to deal with the student(s), including contacting the parents/guardians. If the student is to return home, the parent/guardian will be responsible for all arrangements, including the cost of public transportation, if required.

Searches

In the event a search reveals any form of alcohol, cannabis, or illicit drugs, the Administrator shall secure the items until such time as release has been authorized by the R.C.M.P. The student(s) involved shall not be left unattended.