

# LIKILENG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

## Substance Abuse/Drug abuse

Substance abuse is a regrettable fact of life in our society. Likileng International School will make an effort to address substance abuse through this policy in a responsible and helpful way. Likileng International School takes seriously the possession, use, and trade of illicit drugs and their associated equipment, as well as the use and trade of alcohol and tobacco. If this policy is found to be broken, students will be disciplined according to the code of conduct. Suspension, expulsion, and, if required, turning the case over to the **Lesotho Mounted Police Services under the Department of Child and Gender Protection Unit, Social Development, Karabo ea Bophelo, Adolescent Health Corner for an investigation** are just a few examples of these.

## Statement of Principles

Likileng International School notes that the majority of its students abstain from drug use. Nonetheless, students in the larger community have easy access to a wide range of dangerous substances. Equipped with this understanding, the school works to guarantee a safe atmosphere (one devoid of dangerous materials) for every student. In order to achieve this, the School is always looking for new strategies to support pupils in avoiding the temptation to experiment with these substances. The school will always make an effort to collaborate with guardians/parents in order to guarantee the best possible outcome for their children. If it is discovered that a student is misusing, abusing, or in possession of illegal substances, the school will make every effort to support the student by helping a learner to refrain from such behavior.

Any member of the school community who deals in, possesses, uses, or is in possession of alcohol, tobacco, or other potentially harmful substances, or who has equipment connected to drugs, will not be allowed. This covers using goods like vape pens and e-cigarettes. In order to guarantee that incidents are properly handled and advantageous to the student or students involved, this policy aims to define the School's position on the possession, use, and trade of illegal drugs. It also provides direction to the personnel tasked with putting the policy into practice.

## Domains where this policy is applicable

This policy is fully applicable to all students:

- ❖ Transportation to and from school or any of the aforementioned activities On the school grounds
- ❖ Engaging in or attending any Likileng International School-organized activity
- ❖ Participating in or attending any school-related activity
- ❖ Whenever a student is recognized as a member of the school or represents the school that is the case.

## **The school's role**

Likileng International School will provide helpful information about substance abuse in an effort to empower staff and students. Students will be given age-appropriate information. The school will provide parents and guardians with information about support systems should the need arise. There will be a counselling service for students on campus offered by staff members. When appropriate, arrangements may also be made for the consultative involvement of external organizations.

## **The Misuse of Drugs**

Students will not be permitted to use mood-altering or habit-forming substances, with the exception of medication prescribed by a medical professional.

Pupils are not allowed to:

- ❖ Use, possess, or deal in illegal substances. These substances include, but are not limited to, cocaine, heroin, ecstasy, dagga/ marijuana, (and related byproducts).
- ❖ Hold solvents, inhalants, or other chemical agents, or use them improperly
- ❖ Use or possess prescription or over-the-counter medications in an inappropriate manner
- ❖ Use or carry tobacco, alcohol, or other drugs, including e-cigarettes;
- ❖ Use or carry equipment connected to drugs (like lighters);
- ❖ Use or carry substances that enhance performance.
- ❖ Be under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- ❖ Have alcohol-based drinks.

If a student's substance abuse outside of school negatively affects his or her performance, behavior, attendance, or health, the school has an obligation to step in and help. If the School believes that such behavior could have an impact on other students, it will also take action.

## **Confidentiality**

If a student tells staff that they or another student is involved in substance use or dealing, staff is legally required to notify the disciplinary committee where the parent(s) or guardian of the student(s) involved will be informed. A student who discovers that they are abusing drugs or alcohol may seek assistance from the school. If it is thought necessary, Likileng International School retains the right to notify the school community of any situation involving violations of the school code of conduct. This covers the use, trading, or abusing of drugs. In the event that such situations occur, the school will work to preserve the confidentiality and dignity of the student/s concerned.

**What to do if a student's drug test results are positive:**

The guardian or parent of the student will be contacted right away and asked to take the student out of the building, and necessary procedures will be taken where such a student will be taken for serious disciplinary setting.

**NB: LIKILENG COMMUNITY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT DRUG TESTING WILL BE CONDUCTED RANDOMLY.**