

JUBILEE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



SUBSTANCE AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY

(POLICY ON USE AND POSSESSION OF ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES AND PROHIBITED ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT)

I. INTRODUCTION

“The Ministry of Education considers a safe and disciplined learning environment one of the critical elements to the successful delivery of quality education and recognises the role played by drugs in seriously undermining this.”

Jubilee Christian School wishes to create a safe, secure and drug-free environment for all with definite policies to assist learners, staff and parents with preventative educational strategies.

Definitions

Drug: A substance that produces a psychoactive effect. In this policy, the term drug is used generically to include tobacco and herbal cigarettes, marijuana, alcohol, pharmaceutical drugs (prescribed and over-the-counter), illicit drugs, image and performance enhancing substances and inhalants and other volatile substances.

Prohibited Electronic Equipment: E-readers, tablets and iPads are ONLY allowed if the learners' prescribed works for school are accessed, and this will only be during the specific class times. Learners are not allowed to use these during breaks or before school for any purpose other than academic purposes. iPods and any other form of electronic equipment that may be used for sharing derogatory and illicit material are prohibited. Cell phones are to be handed in on arrival at school, signed for, and collected at the end of the school day. Learners are not allowed to carry cell phones with them at any time during the school day.

II. OBJECTIVE

This policy is for the benefit of the entire school community and endeavours in all situations to protect our youth against negative influences, aid them to stand strong against negative peer pressure, and encourage recognition of and rehabilitation of substance abuse. The emphasis is on assistance rather than mere punitive strategies. However, strong disciplinary action will be taken against offenders and people caught in possession of or dealing with substances on the school premises. The school reserves the right to carry out random searches for illegal substances and equipment to ensure a safe environment for our learners. In doing this, the dignity of learners, parental responsibility and the best interest of Jubilee Christian School at large will be observed.

III. POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION

a) Policy

Jubilee Christian School forbids the following:

- The possession and use/consumption of any illegal substance;
- The misuse of any prescribed or over-the-counter pharmaceutical medication;
- The use/consumption of any solvents, inhalants or any other chemical substance;
- The possession and use/consumption of cigarettes and/or other illegal drugs;
- The possession and use/consumption of alcohol;
- The possession of drug paraphernalia like rizlas, pipes, lighters, matches, etc.;
- Dealing in any substances that can be deemed as harmful to any member of Jubilee Christian School.

This policy is effective:

- Anywhere on the school property;
- During school functions, camps and outings;
- When representing Jubilee Christian School in any way;
- When a learner, in social context, can be identified as part of Jubilee Christian School.

Contravention of the above-mentioned stipulation could result in one or more of the following:

- Confiscation of prohibited electronic equipment for the rest of the term;
- Intervention by the SAPD in terms of the country's laws regarding use and/or possession of drugs or pornographic material;
- Regular drug testing;
- Regular searches of bags and pockets ;
- Random K9 checks on school property;
- Disciplinary measures as per the Jubilee Christian School Code of Conduct and Discipline Policy.

b) Implementation

i. Education and Prevention

- Every year, the school will endeavour to implement educational programmes to help raise awareness of the problems of abuse/consumption and dependency and build an informed, alert and caring community;
- The school will endeavour to implement educational programmes to raise awareness of the destructive consequences of pornography;
- All staff and leaders in the school will be dedicated to the process and be seen to be enforcing the policy;
- Substance abuse and misuse of electronic equipment and printed media form part of the Life Orientation curriculum, so an annual strategy will be adopted to address these subjects adequately. This could include the use of outside organisations that specialise in these fields or assignments on the subjects.

ii. Searches

Regulations for Safety Measures at Public Schools make provision for the searching of school premises, or persons present on the premises, including their property, by a police officer, principal or delegate, if there is reasonable suspicion for possession of prohibited or illegal material. In all instances, the search must be reasonable and proportional to the suspected activity.

If the search involves a body search, it may only be conducted by

- The Principal, if he or she is of the same gender as the learner, or
- The Principal's delegate, who must be of the same gender as the learner
- In a private area and not in view of another learner
- In the presence of one adult witness of the same gender as the learner

Full details of the item(s) seized must be recorded in the school records. In the case of drugs or other illegal substances, the item(s) must be sealed in a Ziplock bag, together with a full description of the seized item(s) and thereafter handed over to the police.

iii. Drug Screening/Testing

The Principal or his/her delegate may at random administer or take a learner to an appropriate drug testing clinic for a urine test.

As and when required, drug testing will be arranged at Westlake Clinic, where testing will be conducted by qualified personnel. Costs incurred through testing under these circumstances

will be the responsibility of the individual's parents.

iv. Communication

The Principal or his or her delegate must inform the learner's parents

- Within one working day, that a search and seizure or a random test was done in respect of their child;
- Of the result of the drug test immediately after it becomes available (learner is also to be informed).

v. Disciplinary action/measures

- Learner(s) found in the possession of drugs or having tested positive for an illegal substance will be suspended until a qualified rehabilitation professional can provide the school with a written report that the learner(s) had successfully completed the rehabilitation process. In the event that rehabilitation is rejected by the learner(s) or parents, the learner(s) will be expelled immediately;
- Should pornography or any illicit material or prohibited devices be confiscated, the parents will be informed, and the relevant action as stipulated in the Discipline Policy of Jubilee Christian School will be taken;
- If a learner is found to be dealing in drugs, the Police will be called and formal charges will be laid against the learner;
- The learner will be expelled immediately.

IV. CONCLUSION

On 11 April 2011, the South African police Service and the Department of Basic Education signed a memorandum of understanding aimed at improving safety in schools. By June 2012, 10 350 schools nationwide were linked to police station. the figure at the end of 2013 is well over 18 000. The aim is to ensure safer school environments free from violence and other challenges related to crime.

Jubilee Christian School endorses this initiative and is linked to the Florida Police Station.

PRINCIPAL

DATE

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

DATE

Parental Consent

Student Drug/Electronic Devices Search and Drug Testing

Student Name (Print) _____ Grade _____

Student ID/Date of birth _____

AS A STUDENT:

- I have read and understood and agree to adhere to Substance and Electronic Devices Policy, as well as the Discipline Policy of Jubilee Christian School;
- I understand that, as a learner at Jubilee Christian School, I am consenting to be subjected to searches and drug tests as described in the Substance Abuse and Search Policy;
- I understand that if I decline to consent to participation in the Random Student Drug Testing Programme, I will be considered to have had a positive drug test result and will therefore be expelled.

AS A PARENT/GUARDIAN/CUSTODIAN:

- I have read and understood the Substance and Electronic Devices Policy, as well as the Discipline Policy of Jubilee Christian School;
- I understand that, as parent/guardian of my child, I am consenting to his/her participation in Jubilee Christian School's Substance and Electronic Devices Policy, including searches and random drug tests;
- I understand that, if I decline to consent to my child's participation in the random drug testing programme, he/she will be considered to have had a positive drug test result and will therefore be expelled.

As evidenced by my signature below, I hereby consent to allow the student named above to undergo random drug testing for the presence of alcohol, illicit drugs and/or banned substances in accordance with the applicable policies. I understand that a qualified professional will oversee the urine collection process and that samples will be tested by a certified laboratory.

I hereby give consent to the professional selected by Jubilee Christian School, the laboratory, doctors, employees and/or agents to perform urine analysis testing for detection of alcohol, illicit drugs and/or banned substances.

I further understand and consent to allow the designated doctor/laboratory to release results of tests to the designated contact at Jubilee Christian School.

I hereby give consent to the Principal and his/her delegates and the SAPS to search my child's person (in accordance with the Substance and Electronic Devices Policy) and possessions for illicit substances and prohibited electronic devices.

I understand that the consent granted herein is effective for all activities and locations as covered in the Substance and Electronic Devices Policy, for the duration of my child's continuing attendance of Jubilee Christian School.

FULL NAMES PARENT 1/GUARDIAN.

SIGNATURE

DATE

FULL NAMES PARENT 2/GUARDIAN.

SIGNATURE

DATE

FULL NAMES STUDENT

SIGNATURE

DATE