

DRUG, ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO

POLICY 2021-2023

Effective Date: October 2021 – Adopted from CBC

Last Reviewed:

Reviewed by: Karen Hayward

Next Review Date: September 2023

Contents

- Introduction
- School ethos
- Confidentiality
- Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education
- Referring and Signposting
- Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Related Incident Procedure
- Staff Roles and Responsibilities

Introduction

This policy outlines policy of **Sandy Secondary School** for:

- Drug and Alcohol Education
- Handling of drug and alcohol related incidents
- Smoking Education
- Handling of smoking related incidents

Drug, alcohol and tobacco misuse pose a significant risk to a young person's physical and psychological health and development

This policy is designed to ensure that a young person receives the help that they may need from specialist services, and to understand what the drivers of their drug and/or alcohol use may be.

At Sandy Secondary School we aim to ensure that our approach to drugs, alcohol and tobacco is a whole school one, designed as part of our commitment to, and concern for, the health and wellbeing of our whole school community.

At Sandy Secondary School we aim to ensure that the approaches and processes that we follow for drug, alcohol and tobacco related incidents are clear for all students, staff, parents/guardians and the wider community.

At Sandy Secondary School we aim to manage drugs, alcohol and tobacco in a way which enables students to access educational opportunities in a safe environment, which ensures the health and safety of individuals and community.

At Sandy Secondary School we aim to ensure a whole-school approach to smoking in order to protect all members of the school community from the harms of second-hand smoke and to prevent the uptake of and reduce the prevalence of smoking across the school community.

At Sandy Secondary School we are mindful of the evidence that exclusion of a student increases their vulnerability, increasing exposure to exploitative and coercive relationships, often increasing their risk around substance use, smoking and sexual behaviour.

Drugs and Alcohol

The use of legal and illegal drugs by young people is associated with immediate and long-term risks to their health and wellbeing, which vary with the type of drug taken. There is evidence to suggest that young people who use recreational drugs run the risk of damage to mental health including suicide, depression and disruptive behaviour disorders.

For some young people using drugs or alcohol is a type of “self-medication” to relieve stress or distressing thoughts or to block emotional trauma, this is particularly the case for those young people that face additional complexities¹.

Amongst 10 to 15-year olds, an increased likelihood of drug use is linked to a range of adverse experiences and behaviour, including truancy, exclusion from school, homelessness, time in care, and serious or frequent offending². One of the strongest predictors of the severity of a young people’s drug and alcohol misuse problem is the age at which they start using substances³.

The Chief Medical Officer recommends that the healthiest and best option is for children who do drink alcohol not to start until at least 15 years of age⁴.

The [most recent treatment data](#) indicates that cannabis and alcohol are the most common substances that young people are seeking help with. However young people also come to treatment services using a range of substances including ecstasy (MDMA), new psychoactive substances and cocaine.

Smoking

The younger the age of uptake of smoking, the greater the harm is likely to be, as early uptake is associated with subsequent heavier smoking, higher levels of dependency, a lower chance of quitting, and higher mortality⁵.

Smoking remains the single largest cause of preventable deaths and one of the largest causes of health inequalities in England. There are still 7.3 million adult smokers and more than 200 people a day die from smoking related illness which could have been prevented⁶.

¹ Young Minds. (2017). Childhood adversity, substance misuse and young people’s mental health. Available at: <https://youngminds.org.uk/media/1547/ym-addaction-briefing.pdf>

² HM Government (2017). 2017 Drug Strategy. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/628148/Drug_strategy_2017.PDF

³ Robins, LN & Przybeck. (1985) Age of onset of drug use as a factor in drug and other disorders, NIDA Research Monograph. 56(1). Pp. 178-92.

⁴ Donaldson, L. (2009) Guidance on the Consumption of Alcohol by Children and Young People. Department of Health. 2009

⁵ Ash young people briefing https://ash.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/190913-ASH-Factsheet_Youth-Smoking.pdf

⁶ Towards a Smokefree Generation: A Tobacco Plan for England 2017 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/630217/Towards_a_Smoke_free_Generation_-_A_Tobacco_Control_Plan_for_England_2017-2022_2_.pdf

Child and adolescent smoking causes serious risks to respiratory health both in the short and long term. Children who smoke are 2 to 6 times more susceptible to coughs and increased phlegm, wheeziness and shortness of breath than those who do not smoke. Smoking impairs lung growth and initiates premature lung function decline, which may lead to an increased risk of chronic obstructive lung disease later in life. The earlier children become regular smokers and persist in the habit as adults, the greater the risk of developing lung cancer or heart disease⁵.

There are several reasons why young people start smoking: it may be for fun, or out of curiosity, but one of the more common reasons is peer pressure from friends or classmates who want them to try smoking as acceptance into a group. Young people can also use smoking to cope with stress, as do some adults. There is also a notable association between smoking and other substance use.

School Ethos

This document describes our school approach to drug, alcohol and tobacco education, prevention and resilience building, supporting positive health and well-being. This policy is intended as guidance for all staff including non-teaching staff and governors.

This policy should be read in conjunction with and complement the following school policies:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- SMSC (PSHCE) Policy
- Behaviour for Learning Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Medicines Policy
- Educational Visits Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Exclusion Policy

Exclusion **should not be** the automatic response to a drug, alcohol or smoking incident and permanent exclusion should only be used in serious cases. More detail on excluding students can be found in the [DfE Exclusion Guidance](#). School exclusions may make a student more vulnerable to criminal exploitation, including recruitment into county lines activity.^{7,8,9} Concerns relating to Child Exploitation must be taken seriously – please see Appendix F for guidance on identifying and responding to child exploitation.

⁷ NSPCC: Criminal Exploitation and Gangs <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/gangs-criminal-exploitation/>

⁸ The Children's Commissioner: Keeping kids safe <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/CCO-Gangs.pdf>

⁹ Bedfordshire VERU: Identifying and Responding to Child Exploitation [Identifying-and-responding-to-child-exploitation.pdf \(bedsveru.org\)](https://www.bedsveru.org/identifying-and-responding-to-child-exploitation.pdf)

Confidentiality

The welfare of children and young people will always be central to school policy and practice. All students need to feel able to talk in confidence to a member of staff about drug or alcohol related problems. However, in line with safeguarding procedures, staff will not be able to promise complete confidentiality and information about a child in relation to drugs or alcohol, and will follow the same procedure as for other sensitive information.

Smoking

Children under the age of 16 can consent to their own treatment if they're believed to have enough intelligence, competence and understanding to fully appreciate what's involved in their treatment. This is known as Gillick competent.

Otherwise, someone with parental responsibility can consent for them.

This could be:

- the child's mother or father
- the child's legally appointed guardian
- a person with a residence order concerning the child
- a local authority designated to care for the child
- a local authority or person with an emergency protection order for the child.¹⁰

Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education

Drug, alcohol and tobacco education contributes to children's health and safety; it is part of a broad and balanced curriculum. An understanding of drugs, alcohol and tobacco enables students to make informed decisions and forms part of the school's duties under safeguarding (Keeping Children Safe in Education).

The [National Drug Strategy 2017](#) highlights the key role of schools and particularly PSHE in helping children and young people develop confidence and resilience, key protective factors in effective prevention.

The [Tobacco Control Plan for England](#) aims to discourage young people from smoking by reducing prevalence of regular smokers under the age of 15 to 3% by the end of 2022.

The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017, make Relationships Education compulsory for all students receiving primary education and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) compulsory for all students receiving secondary education, and Health Education compulsory for all school-aged children and young people.

¹⁰ Children and Young People Consent to Treatment <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/consent-to-treatment/children/>

The table below outlines the drug and alcohol requirements detailed in; [Education, Relationships and Sex Education \(RSE\) and Health Education; Statutory guidance for governing bodies, proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior leadership teams, teachers.](#)

Summary of requirements (Drugs, alcohol and tobacco)	
Primary	Secondary
<p>By the end of primary, students should know;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking. 	<p>By the end of secondary, students should know;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the facts about legal and illegal drugs and their associated risks, including the link between drug use, and the associated risks, including the link to serious mental health conditions. the law relating to the supply and possession of illegal substances. the physical and psychological risks associated with alcohol consumption and what constitutes low risk alcohol consumption in adulthood. the physical and psychological consequences of addiction, including alcohol dependency. awareness of the dangers of drugs which are prescribed but still present serious health risks. the facts about the harms from smoking tobacco (particularly the link to lung cancer), the benefits of quitting and how to access support to do so.

Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education at Sandy Secondary School aims to:

- **Enable students to make informed healthy and safe choices by increasing their knowledge, challenge their understanding and develop their skills.**
- **Support students to develop positive self-esteem and resilience in order to help them assert themselves, respond to pressure, assess risks and seek help, support and advice to keep them and others safe from harm.**
- **Provide accurate, factual and up to date information about substances and the dangers of smoking**

Our SMSC and Health Education programme is planned and taught in line with national curriculum guidance, DFE guidance, Ofsted requirements, and evidence-based high-quality resources

Our SMSC and Health Education addresses keeping safe, healthy relationships and understanding the world around you as part of a planned, progressive and age-appropriate curriculum. It focuses on factors such as raising educational achievement, training and employment, promoting positive health and wellbeing, positive relationships and meaningful activities.

Sandy Secondary School utilises the PSHE Association, a leading source of evidenced-based information and tools for alcohol and drug education and prevention in schools. We are members of the local PSHE Network which aims to support in the delivery of high quality PSHE, providing resources and networking via the PSHE Network Facebook group.

Evidence shows that drug education programmes and approaches that solely rely upon scare tactics, knowledge-only approaches, and mass media campaigns are not effective. In addition, the PSHE Association advises caution about the use of 'drop-down days' if used in isolation and not as part of a planned, and more comprehensive PSHE programme. Social and educational outcomes for young people are likely to be better if they attend school regularly. Young people who are unable to access education at school because they have been excluded for the use of alcohol or using illegal drugs are more likely to develop problematic use. Good management of drugs and alcohol in schools is therefore closely aligned with ensuring educational attainment and achievement for all, and with robust safeguarding. Young people who don't attend lessons or who have been excluded from school, are more likely to smoke regularly compared to those who had never tranted or been excluded.

Referring and Signposting

Sandy Secondary School is mindful that some students will require targeted support. Bedfordshire Young People Substance Misuse Service, provided by Aquarius, supports 5 to 19-year olds impacted by substance misuse whether this is their own use, or if they are affected by someone else's.

If we have any concerns over an individual young person's drug and / or alcohol use, or if the young person is an affected other, being affected by someone else's drug and alcohol use, with the young person's consent and involvement, a referral to Aquarius will be completed (see appendix B). Aquarius offer 1 to 1 psychosocial support, family sessions and group work. The young person can choose to access brief intervention (1-3 sessions) looking at the risks of the specific drug(s) and/or alcohol, or they can access more long-term support looking at their social, emotional, and physical wellbeing (up to 12 sessions). This may also be completed alongside other appropriate referrals, for example to the local Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), the School Nurse or to the local Child Adolescent and Mental Health Service (CAMHS).

Details of additional, locally available targeted support, around wider vulnerability as well as drug and alcohol support, are detailed in the Contact information for schools for key Health and Wellbeing Commissioned Services/In House Services for Central Bedfordshire (appendix H).

The Stop Smoking Service supports young people to quit tobacco and can provide further information around tobacco use.

If we have any concerns over an individual young person's tobacco use, with the young person's consent and involvement, a referral to The Stop Smoking Service will be completed (see appendix C) where they will be offered 1 to 1 support to quit smoking; family members are welcome to attend.

We are committed to sustaining a good level of professional curiosity and submitting a Multi-Agency Information Submission Form (Appendix D, E) where appropriate, as sharing information in this way may help other organisations with key investigations and safeguarding issues.

Drug/Alcohol and Tobacco Related Incident Procedure

Key Procedural Issues

- Always inform the Executive Principal.
- For safeguarding issues, refer to the school Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Record ALL incidents (appendix A). Disposal of illegal substances must be witnessed. Police can dispose of drugs for a setting.

School Boundaries

- The school boundary is clearly identifiable by the fence which marks the perimeter of the school site.
- The school day runs from 8.20am to 4.00pm.
- If a drug, alcohol or smoking related incident takes place in the immediate vicinity of the school, near the start or end of the school day, at an after-school club or at an evening school event, it will be dealt with at the discretion of the Executive Principal, Head of School or other designated member of the senior management team.
- Drug, alcohol or smoking related incidents occurring during school day trips or residential trips will be dealt with as if they had occurred within the school boundaries.

The health and safety of the young person should always be the principal concern when responding to all incidents.

A senior member of staff who is responsible for the school policy should liaise with the police and agree a shared approach to dealing with drug-related incidents. This approach should be updated as part of a regular review of the policy.

If a student is suspected of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol on school premises, the school will prioritise the safety of the young person and those around them. If necessary, it should be dealt with as a medical emergency, administering first aid and summoning

appropriate support. Depending on the circumstances, parents/guardians or the police may need to be contacted. If the young person is felt to be at risk, the Safeguarding Policy will come into effect.

Staff Roles and Responsibilities

<p>The Governing Body is responsible for:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorising the Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education policy and any subsequent reviews of the policy and ensuring that the terms and ethos of this policy are followed. • Reviewing the policy every 3 years. • Monitoring the number and nature of drug, alcohol or tobacco related incidents • the outcomes, including any disciplinary action.
<p>The Executive Principal is responsible for:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that the terms and ethos of this policy are followed. • Appointing a Senior Management Team to implement the policy and ensure a planned drug and alcohol education curriculum is delivered in line with recognised, good practice. • Ensuring that staff are provided with the required training and guidance to deliver effective drug education and respond to drug and alcohol related incidents. • Ensuring that students are aware of the rules on drugs, alcohol and tobacco, and the consequences. • Ensuring that clear procedures for drugs, alcohol and tobacco incidents with appropriate sanctions consistent with the school Behaviour, Exclusion and Safeguarding policies are in place. • Liaising with external agencies and organisations.
<p>The SMSC lead is responsible for:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing and updating the Policy and Scheme of Work in the context of the SMSC programme, in light of research and local and national data. • Monitoring the effectiveness and quality of the planned and delivered curriculum for SMSC, including Drug/Alcohol and Tobacco Education. • Providing leadership and training for staff. • Auditing and monitoring resources for effective teaching and learning. • Producing an annual SMSC report for school governors, to include recommendations and the identification of opportunities and threats to good practice.

Appendix A, School Record of Incident Involving Unauthorised Drugs or Alcohol

School Record of Incident Involving Unauthorised Drugs or Alcohol			
Tick to indicate the category, tick more than one if applicable:			
Drug, alcohol, tobacco or paraphernalia found ON school premises		Student disclosure of drug, alcohol or tobacco use	
Emergency/Intoxication		Disclosure of parent/guardian drug or alcohol misuse	
Student in possession of unauthorised drugs, alcohol or tobacco		Parent/guardian expresses concern	
Student supplying unauthorised drug, alcohol or tobacco on school premises		Incident occurring OFF school premises	
Name of student:		Name of school:	
Students' form:		Date of incident:	
Age of student:		Time of incident:	
Ethnicity of student		Indicate if second or subsequent incident involving the same student	
First Aid given?	YES		NO
First Aid given by:			
Ambulance/Doctor called?	YES		NO
Called by:		Time:	
Drug/ and or alcohol or tobacco involved (if known) (e.g. Alcohol, paracetamol, Ecstasy):			
Drug, alcohol or tobacco found/removed?		YES	NO
Where was the drug, alcohol or tobacco found/seized			
Name and signature of witness:			
Name:		Signature:	
Disposal arranged with (Police/Parents/Other):			Time:
If Police, incident reference number:			
Brief description of incident (including any physical symptoms):			

Was parent/guardian informed	YES	NO
Is yes name of parent/guardian:		
Informed by:	At time	
Other action taken: (referral to drug and alcohol support services, Stop Smoking Service, agencies involved, educational psychologist report requested, case conference called, students/staff informed, LA/GP/Police consulted)		
Completed by:		
Contact details:		
Date:		
Name of any other staff members involved in incident:		
Contact details:		

Appendix B, Aquarius referral form

Once completed please return to:

 <p>aquarius Young People's Team</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Bedfordshire</p>	<p>YPBedfordshire@aquarius.org.uk</p> <p>(Please password protect the document before emailing and send password in separate email)</p>
---	---

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS AS THOROUGHLY AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID DELAYS IN CASE ALLOCATION

CONSENT

We will **not** accept any referral without explicit consent from the young person.

Before completing this referral form, please ensure you have spoken to the young person, explained the service, shared our leaflet where possible, (electronic copies are available on request), and gained **explicit consent** around the sharing of information and receiving support. Aquarius is a voluntary service.

If the young person refuses to consent to a referral and there is a clear need for Aquarius advice and support, please do not hesitate to contact the service as we can provide you with advice and guidance around supporting their needs.

By completing this referral, I confirm that I have spoken to the young person, they have agreed to receiving support, and they have consented to their information being shared

Date Consented

CLIENT DETAILS

Name						
Address				Postcode		
Telephone:		Mobile Tel. Number:				
Email address:						
Date of Birth		Age:	Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Nationality		Ethnic Origin:		Country of Birth:		
If the YP is aged between 5 and 13s old and being referred because of someone else's drug or alcohol use please complete the below:						
Parent/Guardian name:						

Parent/Guardian address			
Parent/Guardian Tel. Number			
Is the parent/guardian aware of the referral?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is it safe to complete home visits?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Known
DETAILS OF REFERRER			
Name			
Organisation		Relationship:	
Address	Postcode		
Telephone		Mobile Number:	
Email Address			
How did you hear of service?			
Details of Young Person Continued			
Registered Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Primary Impairment:
GP Details:			
How would the Young Person like to be contacted?	<input type="checkbox"/> Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Home Tel. <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile	<input type="checkbox"/> Referrer <input type="checkbox"/> School / Education <input type="checkbox"/> Parent / Guardian	
Can Aquarius leave messages on their:	<input type="checkbox"/> Home phone <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Send text messages <input type="checkbox"/> Send letters	
Best time to contact YP			
Which school does the Young Person attend?			
Where / When would the Young Person like to meet?			
DETAILS OF CONCERNS			
Is the YP being referred for:	<input type="checkbox"/> Own Drug / Alcohol use (FOCAL CLIENT) <input type="checkbox"/> Parental/Sibling drug/alcohol use (AFFECTED OTHER)		

Please tick Exploitation risk and other known risk indicators:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Links with older peer group money/drugs | <input type="checkbox"/> History of abuse | <input type="checkbox"/> Engaging in sex for |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Missing/staying out | <input type="checkbox"/> Risk taking behaviour | <input type="checkbox"/> Challenging Behaviour |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Previous or Current LAC | <input type="checkbox"/> Peers engaged in exploitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Offending behaviour |

Reason For Referral

(including current drug use and concerns, what led to referral, whether it is open to Early help or Social Care, mental or physical health concerns)

Large empty text area for providing details of the reason for referral.

OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED

(1) Name of Professional	
Service	Contact Tel. Number:
E-mail address	
(2) Name of Professional	
Service	Contact Tel. Number:

E-mail address	
(3) Name of Professional	
Service	Contact Tel. Number:
E-mail address	

Appendix C, Stop Smoking Service Referral Form

Stop Smoking Service Young Person Referral Form



Please complete all fields of this form in block capitals.

Full Name			
Date of birth	____/____/____		
Gender	Male: <input type="checkbox"/>	Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	Pregnant: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Address:	_____ Postcode _____		
Email:	_____		
Contact Number:			Comments:
Self-Referral	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (If yes, you do not need to complete the referring organisation box below)		
Referring organisation (Team Code – if applicable):	_____ _____ _____ Referrer:		
Preferred method of contact?	Phone <input type="checkbox"/>	Post <input type="checkbox"/>	Email <input type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/>
Are your family aware that you smoke?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Could we contact your referrer if we cannot get hold of you?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
<p>Please return to: Central Bedfordshire Stop Smoking Service, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, SG17 5TQ</p> <p>Call us on freephone 0800 013 0553</p> <p>Email: bedscg.stopsmoking@nhs.net</p>			

Appendix D, Multi-agency information sharing form guidelines



Pan-Beds-MA-information form-guideli

Appendix E, Multi-agency information sharing form



Multi-agency-information-submissior

Appendix F, Useful resources

[Guidance for school leaders and staff on managing drugs and drug-related incidents](#) within schools and pastoral support for student has been produced by the government.

Teacher workbook from the Alcohol Education Trust - key stages 3 and 4

The Alcohol Education Trust has published its latest [teacher workbook \(link opens in new window\)](#), giving guidance on delaying alcohol consumption and reducing the risks by teaching resilience. The workbook is DfE approved and a PSHE quality assured resource. Ideal for those delivering alcohol education, it offers 'pick and mix' lesson plans, games and quizzes for effective and enjoyable alcohol awareness.

Teacher newsletter from the Alcohol Education Trust

The [Alcohol Education Trust \(link opens in new window\)](#) publishes teacher and parent newsletters.

- [alcoholeducationtrust.org \(link opens in new window\)](http://alcoholeducationtrust.org)
- talkaboutalcohol.com

Teachers' area from the Alcohol Education Trust

The [Alcohol Education Trust \(link opens in new window\)](#) provides educational materials and lesson plans, which are listed by subject to make lesson planning simple. There are different levels of resources for different age groups and abilities, together with short film clips and hand out sheets.

New resources, checked by PSHE Association

The PSHE Association has quality assured two drug and alcohol related resources from CWP resources:

[PSHE](#) provides a set of lessons for key stages 1 to 5, to support the teaching of a variety of issues within drug and alcohol education

The evidence based [Talk about alcohol \(link opens in new window\)](#) for secondary teachers from the Alcohol Education Trust (AET) focuses on enabling students to make informed choices about alcohol use and includes teacher notes, worksheets, discussion-based work and links to interactive games, quizzes and activities.

Friendship & Social Group Focus

Resources available from:

[Alcohol Education Trust](#): Produce the '[Talk About Alcohol](#)' [Teacher Workbook](#)

Experimentation & Personal Identity Focus

Drug education in the context of relationships, managing emotions and peer norms

Building resilience, decision making skills and self-esteem resources available from:

[Rise Above](#): Website created by young people for young people which aims to build emotional resilience, equipping individuals with the skills and knowledge they need to make informed decisions and help deal with the pressures of growing up.

Violence & Harm reduction

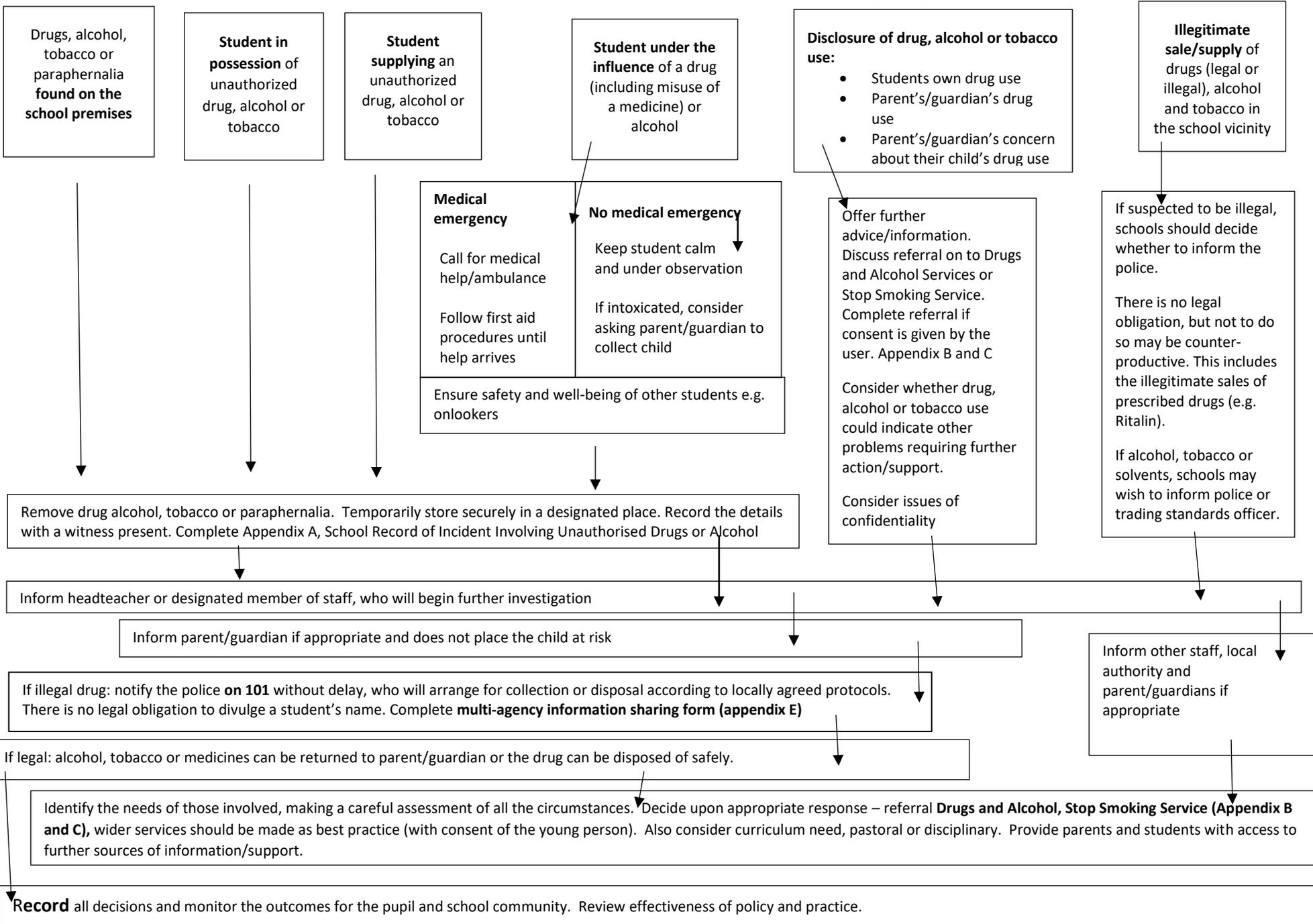
Bedfordshire Against Violence and Exploitation - <https://www.bavex.co.uk/>

Raising awareness and reporting of exploitation especially those linked to organised crime, including county lines and child sexual and/or criminal exploitation

Bedfordshire Violence & Exploitation Reduction Unit (VERU) - <https://bedsveru.org/>

Identifying and Responding to Child Exploitation - [Identifying-and-responding-to-child-exploitation.pdf \(bedsveru.org\)](#)

Appendix G: Responding to Incidents Involving Drugs



Appendix H, Contact Information for Health and Wellbeing Services in Bedfordshire for Children, Young People, and Families (May 2021)

Service	Organisation	Website	Area Covered	Service Available	How to Make Contact
0-5 Health Visiting 5-19 School Nursing	Cambridgeshire Community Services (CCS) NHS Trust	www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/BedsSchoolNursingService www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/bedfordshire/services/health-visiting www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/BedsBabyFriendlyTeam	BBC CBC	School Nurses can support on a 1 to 1 basis - virtually or in school - where there is a need for talking therapy and guidance with issues of exam pressure, relationships and other health issues or conditions. Health Visitors can support parents, and children under 5 years, with a wide range of health issues, such as support with parenting, maternal mental health support and infant feeding.	0-19 team Single Point of Access which can direct any enquires to the relevant Health Visiting or School Nursing team on any one day: Tel. 0300 555 0606 Also see website.
Parentline	Cambridgeshire Community Services (CCS) NHS Trust	www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/bedfordshire-parentline	BBC CBC	Parentline offers advice and support on a range of issues such as weaning, sleep and emotional health. Parents/guardians can also find out how to access other local services.	Parentline: for parents and guardians of those aged 0-19 (25 with SEND) TEXT: 07507 331886
ChatHealth	Cambridge Community Services NHS Trust	www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/bedfordshire-chathealth	BBC CBC	ChatHealth is a service for young people to confidentially ask for help about a range of issues or make an appointment with a school nurse. They can also find out how to access other local services including emotional support or sexual health services.	ChatHealth: for young people aged 11-19 (25 with SEND) TEXT 07520 616070
KOOTH	Xenzone	www.kooth.com	BBC CBC LBC MK	Online counselling and emotional well-being service for children and young people aged 11-19. Kooth.com is a website children and young people can use to get advice, support and guidance for any problem, no matter how big or small. They can chat online to professional counsellors, read articles written by young people, join forums to receive peer-to-peer support, access self-help materials and keep a daily journal.	www.kooth.com
CAMHS Mental Health services	East London Foundation Trust (ELFT)	www.elft.nhs.uk/service/201/CAMHS-Bedford-Borough	BBC CBC	The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) provides outpatient assessments, support and treatment for children and young people up to the age of 18 experiencing moderate to severe mental health problems. The service works to provide them with a greater knowledge of their condition and improve coping techniques.	elft.spoebedfordshire@nhs.net Tel: 01234 893301

Service	Organisation	Website	Area Covered	Service Available	How to Make Contact
Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing Service for Children and Young People	CHUMS	www.chums.uk.com/	BBC CBC	Mental health and wellbeing services for children, young people, and families. Please see website for the types of services available.	Tel. 01525 863924 Also see website.
Adult Mental Health services	East London Foundation Trust (ELFT)	www.elft.nhs.uk/service/329/Bedfordshire-Mental-Health-and-Wellbeing-Service	BBC CBC	Bedfordshire Mental Health and Wellbeing Service provides mental health services across Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire.	Tel. 01234 310589 Also see website.
Early Help Bedford Borough	Bedford Borough	www.bedford.gov.uk/social-care-health-and-community/children-young-people/help-for-families/early-help/	BBC	Early help is about acting early and as soon as possible to tackle problems emerging for children, young people, and their families. Early help means providing support as soon as possible to help families cope with difficulties and working together with other services to prevent bigger problems emerging. Support can come from a range of services and organisations, for parents, children, and young people of any age. Our aim is to provide the right action at the right time with the right support.	Email: earlyhelp@bedford.gov.uk Tel. 0800 023 2057 Also see website.
Early Help Central Bedfordshire	Central Bedfordshire	www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk	CBC	Central Bedfordshire Early Help services	Tel. 0300 300 8585 (Office hours) Tel. 0300 300 8123 (Out of office hours) Also see website.

Service	Organisation	Website	Area Covered	Service Available	How to Make Contact
Integrated Front Door (Formerly MASH) Bedford Borough	MASH BBC	https://localoffer.bedford.gov.uk/kb5/bedford/directory/service.page?id=KhuF2dS2z58	BBC	The Integrated Front Door acts as the first point of contact for receiving all early help assessments and safeguarding concerns or enquiries.	Tel. 01234 718700 (Office hours) Tel. 0300 300 8123 (Out of office hours) Email: multiagency@bedford.gov.uk
Access & Referral Hub MASH Central Bedfordshire	MASH CBC	www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk	CBC	Safeguarding services	Tel. 0300 300 8585 (Office Hours) Tel. 0300 300 8123 (Out of office hours) Email: AccessReferral@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Also see website.
Local Offer	Bedford Borough	https://localoffer.bedford.gov.uk	BBC	Up-to-date information about what is going on in the area and details on how to access services, organisations, and activities. Information is also provided on childcare settings, childminders and early help support for all families.	Local.offer@bedford.gov.uk
Local Offer	Central Bedfordshire	https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/15/special_educational_needs_and_disability-local_offer	CBC	Information on SEND updates, live events and organisations that offer advice and support in the local SEND Directory.	See website.
CSE support for young people	Link to Change	www.linktochange.org.uk/community/link-to-change-13541/home	BBC	Providing wellbeing and resilience support to children and young people aged 12-26 years old in changing the cycle of exploitation.	Tel. 01480 474974 Also see website.
Building Resilience Programme	4YP	www.4ypuk.com	CBC	Building Resilience Workshops – ‘Bend don’t Break’. A resilience programme delivered in school over 10 weeks with 12 months follow up support to build on a range of skills including: problem solving, awareness of strengths and qualities, resourcefulness, setting and achieving goals, managing emotions, taking control of your future.	For more information please contact the lead youth worker, Wendy Millgate (07780 448599 or wendymillgate@4ypuk.com)

Service	Organisation	Website	Area Covered	Service Available	How to Make Contact
Children's Community Specialist Health Services	Cambridgeshire Community Services (CCS) NHS Trust	www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/bedfordshire	BBC CBC	Please see website	See website link.
Counselling Service for young people	Bedford Open Door	www.bedfordopendoor.org.uk	BBC	Offering up to 12 weeks of free confidential face to face, telephone or online counselling for young people aged 13 -25 years living Bedford Borough or North Central Bedfordshire. One off telephone Drop-In sessions available too – just call or text to organise a convenient time for the call. Schools Counselling also available – contact for more information.	Young people can self-refer by Tel. 01234 360388 TEXT: 07922105200 Email: counselling@bedfordopendoor.org.uk Professionals can refer by calling the office, with permission from the young person.
Counselling Service for young people	Sorted Counselling Service	http://sortedbedfordshire.org.uk/	CBC	Offering free confidential counselling for young people aged 10 -25 years living South Central Bedfordshire. Schools counselling also available – contact for more information.	Tel. 01582 674442
Counselling Service for young people	Relate Talktime	https://www.relate.org.uk/find-my-nearest-relate/centre/bedfordshire-luton-relate-centre	BBC CBC	Live chat, telephone, and web cam counselling for young people.	Tel 01234 356350 Email: appointments.bedsandluton@relate.org.uk

Service	Organisation	Website	Area Covered	Service Available	How to Make Contact
Sexual Health- STI Testing, HIV , Contraception and psychosexual counselling	iCaSH Cambridgeshire Community Services (CCS) NHS Trust	www.icash.nhs.uk	BBC CBC	iCaSH (integrated Contraception and Sexual Health) service provides all aspects of sexual and reproductive health, including contraception, sexually transmitted infection (STI) and HIV testing and treatment. iCaSH is available from easily accessible single locations	Self-referral: Tel. 0300 3003030 Also see website: www.icash.nhs.uk
Oral Health Improvement	Cambridgeshire Community Services (CCS)	http://www.cambscommunityservices.nhs.uk/BedsOralHealth	BBC CBC	Please see website	Email: ccs.oralhealthbeds@nhs.net Tel. 01525 631223
Weight Management Services	More Life	www.more-life.co.uk/	BBC CBC	MoreLife provide weight management programmes for adults, children, teenagers, and families that are designed to create long-lasting shifts in behaviour and give clients the tools and support they need to achieve their health goals.	Tel. 0808 208 2340 Also see website: bedford@more-life.co.uk
Stop Smoking Service	Stop Smoking Service	www.smokefreebedfordshire.co.uk	BBC CBC	Specialist advisors offer free advice and support across Central Bedfordshire, Bedford Borough and Milton Keynes.	Self-referral: Tel. 0800 013 0553 Email: bedscg.stopsmokingservice@nhs.net
Drug and Alcohol Services for Young People	Aquarius (Cambridgeshire Community Services)	www.aquarius.org.uk	BBC CBC	Specialist services for children and young people who use substances or gamble, and those who are affected by a parent's or guardian's substance misuse.	Tel. 0330 008 3925 to refer a young person, or to request a referral form. Referrals also received via Early Help, Social Care referrals and MASH.

Service	Organisation	Website	Area Covered	Service Available	How to Make Contact
Adult Drug & Alcohol Treatment Service	P2R East London Foundation NHS Trust (ELFT)	www.elft.nhs.uk/service/299/Path-to-Recovery-P2R-Bedford-Borough	BBC CBC	P2R provides drug and alcohol advice, treatment, and support to adults whose lives are affected, and support can include the whole family. An integrated service is provided with a range of expertise available in one place.	Tel. 01234 352220 Anyone can self refer or ask their doctor or another professional to refer on their behalf. Referrals can also come from professionals
Support, advocacy, mentoring & advocacy service (SAMAS) for clients recovering from drug & alcohol problems	Community Led Initiatives (CLI)	http://www.communityled.org.uk/	BBC CBC	Through mentoring, group activities, community building and co-production SAMAS aim to remove barriers to community inclusion for people who are socially excluded and/or facing complex issues such as drug and alcohol misuse, homelessness, offending and mental ill-health.	Tel. 01234 880 625 Email: Hello@communityled.org.uk