

SUBSTANCE MISUSE POLICY

Philosophy:

Hua Hin International School condones neither the misuse of harmful substances nor the illegal supply of these substances. In order to ensure a healthy and safe community, the school has instituted a 'targeted drug testing' policy. When it appears that a student's academic performance and/or health is jeopardised by harmful behaviours in or out of school, or if there is any other cause that leads the school to suspect substance misuse, the school will intervene to aid the individual. The school believes that shared responsibility with parents is essential to the successful implementation of the substance misuse policy and will keep parents informed at all times.

Policy and Procedures:

The targeted drug testing policy states that the school will administer drug tests upon any reasonable suspicion of substance misuse. Potentially harmful substances include but are not limited to: illegal drugs, prescription and over the counter drugs, alcoholic beverages, inhaled stimulants.

A positive drug test result would not automatically lead to the student being asked to leave the school. However, if the student remained in school an action plan would be put in place to assist the student and his/her family. Part of this plan would include counselling. Following a positive test, the student would continue to be monitored and may be asked to leave the school if substance misuse continues.

Any student found to be using, possessing or distributing drugs or harmful substances on the campus or on any school-sponsored activity will be excluded on a basis to be decided by the headteacher. Where a student is involved in similar behaviours outside school then the appropriate sanctions will also be decided by the Headteacher. This may also include exclusion.

The school reserves the right to inspect personal property such as lockers and bags if we believe there is sufficient cause for doing so.

Educational Programme:

Our educational programme acknowledges the importance of pastoral care in the welfare of young people, and, through the general ethos of the school, will seek to create a climate within which students in need of support seek advice.

The curriculum is designed:

- to prevent substance misuse;
- to enable students to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and developing and practising skills such as responding to peer pressure;
- to provide accurate information about harmful substances;
- to increase understanding of the implications and possible consequences of substance misuse;
- to widen understanding of related health and social/emotional issues;
- to seek to minimise the risks that users and potential users face;
- to enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support.

Name of Student(s) _____

Parent/Guardian: *As the parent or legal guardian of the student (above) I have read and I understand the school's Substance Misuse Policy and give permission for my daughter/son to be tested for the use of drugs as required by the school.*

Parent Signature _____ Date _____