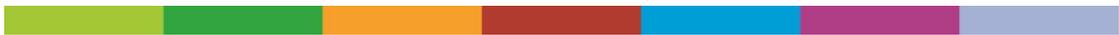




Queen Mary's College



Drugs and Alcohol Policy

See also H&S policies, and policies and procedures concerning the conduct of students.

This policy is available in different font sizes, formats, languages or on different coloured paper, or someone can go through it with you – please ask in resources or ask your tutor.

A drug is any substance, taken into the body, which alters the way in which the mind or body functions.

This Policy will concentrate on substances taken for **non-medical** reasons, including alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances, illegal drugs and other unauthorised substances.

The College believes that the misuse of drugs is detrimental to the health and well-being of an individual.

The College is committed to:

- the promotion of drugs and alcohol education
- helping students to make informed decisions in their own lives
- reducing the number of students who start misusing drugs or alcohol
- dissuading existing users
- offering support and advice to those who seek it

Queen Mary's College will provide support, guidance and education on drug or alcohol related issues and will support any student who needs assistance with these issues.

Drugs or Alcohol must not be brought into college. Students must not come onto the college site under the influence of either substance. A student whose behaviour is impaired by drugs or alcohol or is in possession of drugs or alcohol will be immediately referred to the Principal or her Deputy, who will take appropriate action. In some instances this could lead to suspension or formal expulsion and the police may be involved. College staff have the power to confiscate, retain or dispose of a student's property where we consider it reasonable to do so, and to search a student's property. We do not have to inform parents or guardians, although we would usually do so.

Any member of staff who sees a student they believe to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol should immediately bring the student to the

Help Desk and explain the situation. Classes may be left unsupervised for a few minutes for this purpose. Help Desk will contact a member of CMT.

The only exception to this rule concerns smoking, on which we have a separate policy and a dedicated smoking area. For more information see the no-smoking policy on viewpoint:

<http://viewpoint.qmc.ac.uk/C8/HealthSafety/Document%20Library/Forms/AllItems.aspx> (click on smoking policy)

Education, Support and Advice

Drugs Education will seek to reinforce and extend the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and skills developed during previous education.

Drugs Education has a place in the formal curriculum and in special events, such as the QMC Health Week. Information about the dangers of drug and alcohol misuse will be made available to all students through the ECM programme.

The College is committed to giving support and advice on ANY drug or alcohol related issue and students are actively encouraged to approach any member of staff with whom they feel comfortable. Staff will have regular access to suitable INSET training.

A range of support services exist both within College and in the wider community. The College will make details of these services readily available to all students and staff.

These include:

In College

The College Counselling Service - confidential support from trained counsellors. Available every day.

QMC Personal Adviser - Barbara Dossett is available in College - Room 532 in the Library (bookable via MST 660) should you wish to talk things through.

Student Information Points - located at the end of The Street and near the Help Desk. Range of leaflets available.

Outside College

Adfam National Supporting Families affected by drugs and alcohol	0845 388 3853	www.drugfam.co.uk
Alcoholics Anonymous	023 80223198 24 hour information line	www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk
Catch 22	0845 459 9405	www.catch-22.org.uk

A national charity that works with young people aged 18 and under in the Basingstoke area.	Freephone 0800 5999591 (mobile charges may apply) Text 07797 805 821 (just text your name and the word 'help' and they will reply)	
National Association For Children of Alcoholics (NACOA)	0800 3583456	helpline@nacoa.org.uk www.nacoa.org.uk
National Drugs Helpline	0800 776600	
Options Fee paying Drugs and Alcohol Service - Over 18's	01256 843203	www.optionscounselling.co.uk
Samaritans	01256 462333	www.samaritans.org
Talk to Frank Speak to Frank 24/7 or go online for confidential advice. Everything you may want to know about drugs and alcohol plus what to do if you are worried about a friend.	0300 123 6600 text 82111	www.talktofrank.com

For Over 18s HOMER (Hampshire Operational Model For Effective Recovery) is available on:

01256 818210, http://cri.org.uk/homer_basingstoke

Jacobs Yard
Jacobs House
New Road
Basingstoke
RG21 7PE

Access to the service can either be through self referral, through other referring agencies (such as GP's and pharmacies) or via the telephone. By dropping in at any time you are able to access a staff member, peer mentor or volunteer.

NB: At all times, legal regulations must be observed. The possession and supply of illegal drugs are criminal offences.

Beth Linklater, Assistant Principal

Date of next review – January 2018