

LANGFORD ISLAMIC COLLEGE

SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

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Policy and Rationale

The possession, use, or sale of alcohol, marijuana, or any illegal narcotic substance, or any paraphernalia or equipment associated with the use of these substances is not permitted on college grounds at any time, or at off-campus events sponsored by the college.

In addition to the physical and psychological dangers resulting from drug use, a student under the influence of marijuana, illegal drugs, or alcohol is not permitted to attend academic activities, athletics, or extra-curricular clubs.

The use of such substances in the college community would be in clear violation of the Islamic ethos of the College. Islam prohibits the use of intoxicants and mind altering substances, both in small and large quantities, whether it is alcohol, drugs, fermented drinks, or something else.

Without question there is an absolute incompatibility between the states of mind needed for attention to scholastic activity and that state of mind influenced to any degree by the use of alcohol or drugs. Additionally, students who bring alcohol or drugs have violated the trust of the college community and impaired the ability of the college to carry out its mission.

The Langford Islamic College (LIC) also believes that experimenting with marijuana, alcohol, or other illegal drugs on evenings or weekends is dangerous and potentially harmful to children and adolescents. The extended use of these substances will harm the lungs and other organs, impair mental functions, weaken the ability to concentrate and think, and significantly affect motivation and the ability to accomplish schoolwork.

The College will view providers/suppliers of illicit drugs as people who endanger the health and future potential of others and consequently may terminate their membership of the School community and will refer the matter to the relevant Policing authorities.

The possession, supply, or use of an illegal drug is an offence against the law and the police will be notified in such circumstances.

ACTION PLAN

A drug is any substance, with the exception of food and water, which when taken by the body, alters its function physically and/or psychologically. The policy includes all drugs, such as analgesics, alcohol, cannabis, amphetamines, ecstasy

and tobacco. Solvents (also known as volatile substances are also included in the school drug policy.

Student's responsibilities

Whilst on school premises or at off-site school functions, students will not:

- Smoke tobacco products
- Consume alcohol
- Use drugs
- Misuse prescribed drugs or over-the-counter drugs
- Deliberately inhale solvents
- Possess, supply or sell tobacco, other drugs or drug related equipment
- Knowingly be in the presence of others who are in breach of this policy.

The school:

- Has a compulsory Health Education Program for Year 8 to 10 students and health related talks for the Year 11-12
- Has a Student Support Team that will maintain close contact with the community-based Drug Action Groups
- Has a Student Support Team to provide pastoral care, confidential support and referrals on any drug related issues within the school
- Ensures that all staff have access to professional development in drug-related areas
- Acknowledges the need for parent education on drug issues and provides programs to inform and empower parents, eg. Parent Drug Awareness Evenings

Drug Incident Procedure

- Parents will be notified
- First response: ensure student immediate safety and organise first aid if necessary
- Police notification of any students found to be supplying, possessing or under the influence of illegal drugs
- Confiscation of illegal drugs to be handed to the police disposal
- Suspension or expulsion at the discretion of the Principal

- During suspension periods, students will be offered counselling session with an appropriate support agency
- On return from suspension, students will meet with the Student Support Team to review the students' school responsibilities
- A contract is signed between student, parent and Principal witness by the Student Support Team.

Do you or someone you know have a problem with alcohol or other drugs?

- The Alcohol and Drug Information Service **9442 5000 or 1800 198 024**
- The Community Drug Service Team (S E Metropolitan, Cannington)
93584011