

DRUGS EDUCATION PROCEDURES

DELIVERY OF THE DRUGS EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Drugs education is a whole curriculum issue, but is taught mainly through Personal and Social Education, Religious Education and Science. Key messages are reinforced in several other subjects, e.g.,

English	-	communication, inter-personal skills and role-play,
Technology	-	safety hazards and risks of volatile substances,
Physical Education	-	positive attitudes to health.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DRUGS EDUCATION POLICY

A designated teacher co-ordinates the Drugs Education programme. An additional designated teacher:

- co-ordinates the school's procedures for handling instances of suspected drug misuse (as given in Appendix I);
- liaises with outside agencies who may work with the school or with the pupils concerned.

If the school receives an allegation about drugs misuse, the designated teacher for Drugs Misuse or the Headmaster will pass on the allegation to the local police. The parents of any boys named in the allegation will be informed that the police have been contacted.

Every member of staff is committed to supporting the Drugs Education Programme within the school, and each teacher is responsible for promoting drug awareness, when appropriate, within his or her subject.

Individual pupils receive guidance within the school's general arrangements for pastoral care.

In addition to this internal support the Educational Welfare Service, Local Health and Social Services and the local Police all have a part to play in supporting the school's efforts.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Where a pupil discloses to a teacher or other member of staff that he is taking drugs, the staff member should make it clear to the pupil that he/she cannot offer a guarantee of confidentiality given the seriousness of drug misuse. The staff member must inform the designated teacher for drug misuse of the disclosure.

SAFETY IN SCHOOL AND STORAGE OF POTENTIALLY HARMFUL SUBSTANCES

The heads of Science, Technology and Art are responsible for ensuring that all potentially harmful substances used in their departments are safely stored. Individual teachers using harmful substances in class are responsible for the supervision of pupils.

The teacher in charge of Health and Safety has overall responsibility for ensuring that all potentially harmful substances used in school are safely stored.

All staff have a responsibility for the health and safety of pupils and must be aware of the dangers of volatile substance misuse, e.g., adhesives, Tipp-Ex, marker pens etc.

TRAINING AND INFORMATION

It is important that all members of staff - teaching and non-teaching - are familiar with the procedures for dealing with incidents relating to drugs. Teachers are released for in-service training on drug related issues.

The school encourages parental involvement and will from time to time organise opportunities for discussion with specialists in drugs education. In the event of a drugs related incident, the parents of any boy(s) involved will be informed and their active co-operation sought.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Any pupil who has a concern related to the misuse of drugs should inform his Head of Year or any other member of staff. Any parent with a similar concern, or complaint about the programme or its delivery should, in the first instance, contact the relevant designated teacher or Head of Year.

EVALUATION

The implementation and maintenance of this policy is monitored, on a regular basis, by the designated teachers in consultation with staff involved in the delivery of the Drugs Education Programme and Heads of Year. As a result the policy will be reviewed and evaluated by Senior Management annually to ensure its effectiveness in the light of changing circumstances and trends in drug use.

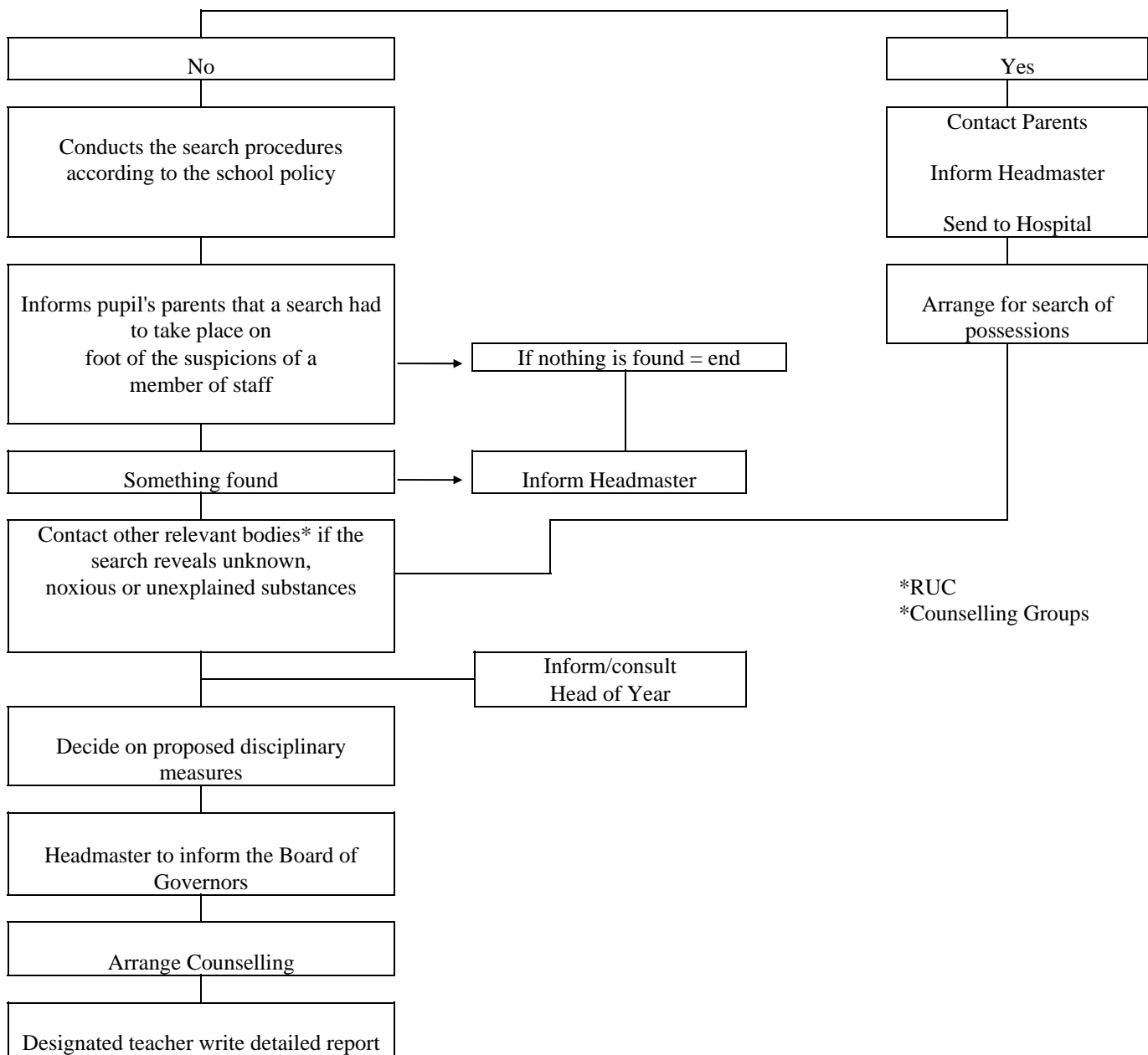
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APPENDIX 1

PUPILS SUSPECTED OF HAVING TAKEN DRUGS

1. A member of staff who suspects a pupil of having taken drugs must remain with the pupil, inform a school first-aider immediately and inform designated teacher for drug misuse and Headmaster.
2. The pupil, along with his schoolbag and other possessions must be transferred to the care of a school first-aider, or designated teacher or Headmaster.
3. Two members of staff must be present when a search is made of a pupil's possessions. The pupil himself must empty his own pockets and bag.

Does Pupil need Hospital Treatment?



If a member of staff has serious concerns or reasonable suspicions from observations during or outside of school hours that a pupil may have a drug related problem he/she **MUST** inform the Headmaster.

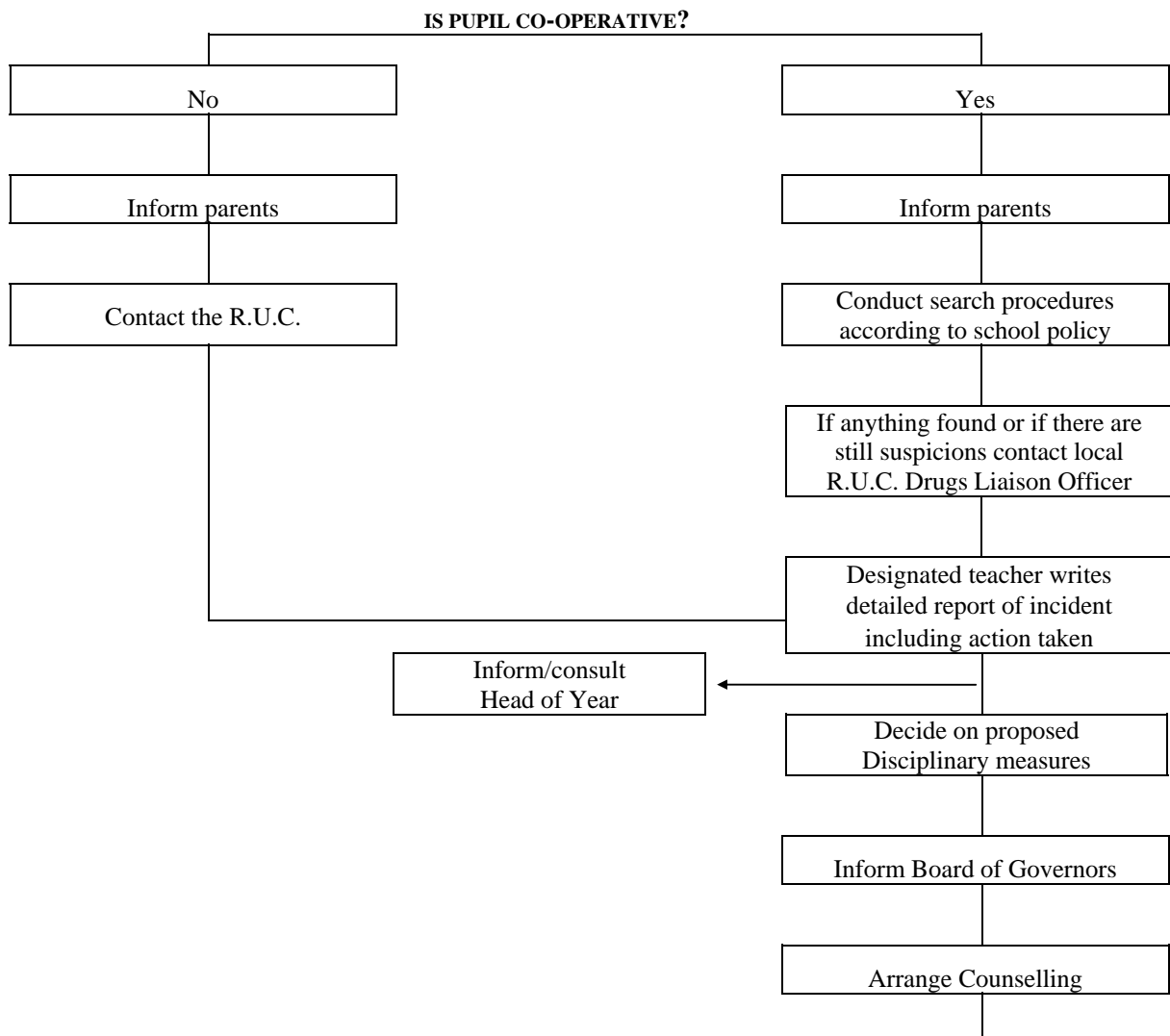
The designated teacher will inform the member of staff who instigated the investigation of the outcome.

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PUPIL SUSPECTED BY A MEMBER OF STAFF OF POSSESSING/DISTRIBUTING AN ILLEGAL SUBSTANCE

1. Member of staff informs designated teacher and/or Headmaster of suspicion.
2. The pupil believed to be in possession is transferred along with his possessions, including schoolbag to the care of designated teacher/Headmaster.
3. Two members of staff must be present when a search is made of a pupil's possessions. The pupil himself must empty his own pockets and bag.

AT INVESTIGATION 2 MEMBERS OF STAFF MUST BE PRESENT

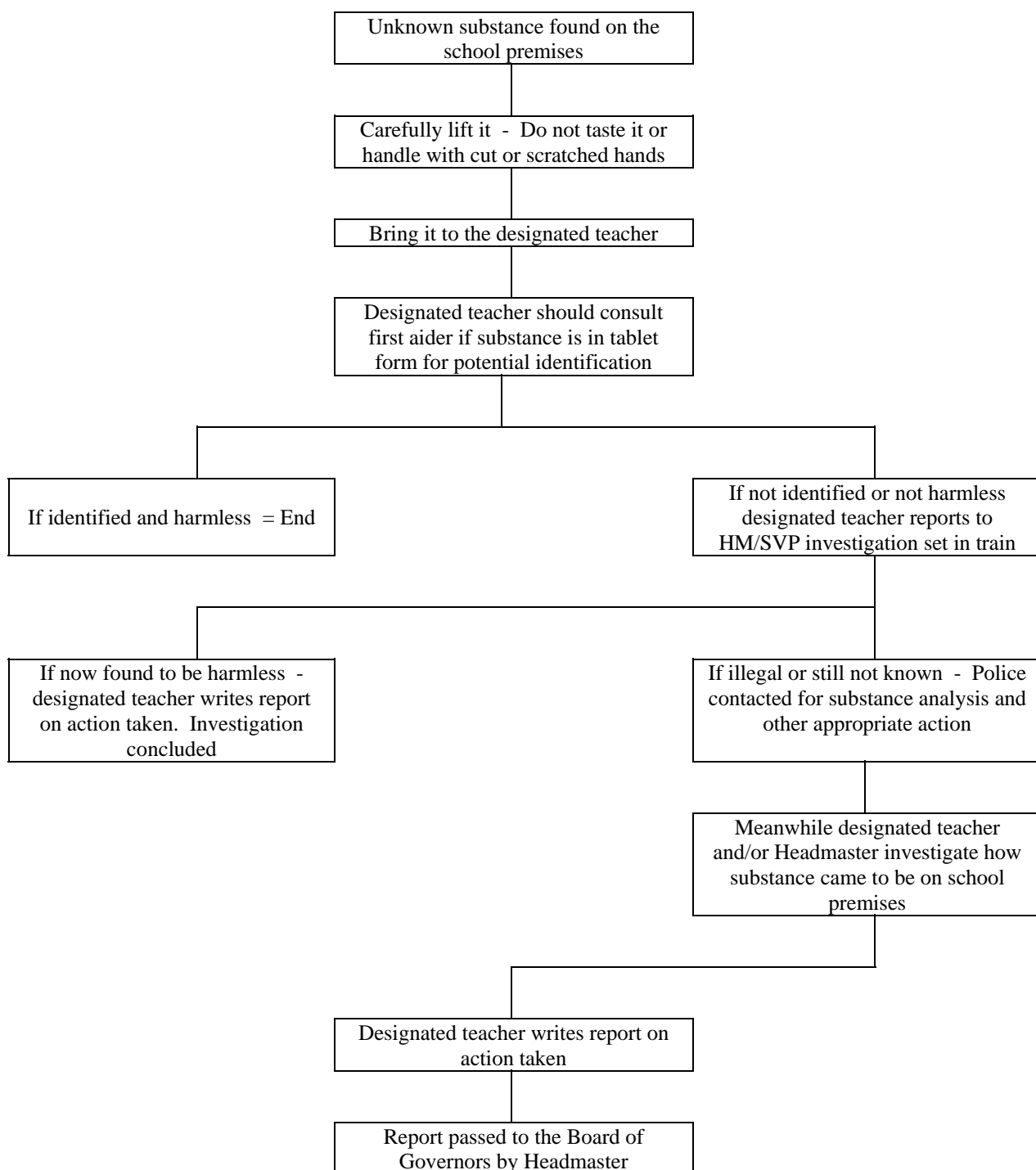


Designated teacher write
detailed report

The designated teacher will inform the member of staff who instigated the investigation of the outcome.

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FINDING A SUBSTANCE ON THE SCHOOL PREMISES



The member of staff who instigated the investigation will be informed by the designated teacher of the outcome.

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APPENDIX 2

USE OF PRESCRIBED DRUGS

Any pupil who has to take medication during the school day must:

- ensure that it is clearly labelled with:
 - i. his name and form;
 - ii. the name of the medication;
 - iii. the dosage prescribed and when it is to be taken.
- inform his Form Teacher at Roll Call;
- go immediately afterwards to a school first-aider and hand the medication in for safe-keeping;
- return to the first-aider for the administration of the medication as indicated in (iii) above.

Long Term and Regular Medications

(e.g. for asthma, allergies, migraine, diabetes etc.)

A spare supply of the pupil's prescribed medication **MUST** be furnished to a first-aider at the beginning of the school year and updated when necessary.

In addition boys should continue to carry their own 'reliever' inhaler, when appropriate.

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APPENDIX 3

THE LAW IN NORTHERN IRELAND

All staff should be aware of their responsibilities under the law. It is important to note that the law in Northern Ireland differs in certain aspects from elsewhere in the U.K. The relevant pieces of legislation are the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and Section 5 of the Criminal Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1967 as outlined below.

1. Misuse of Drugs

It is an offence under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971:

- (i) to supply or offer to supply a controlled drug to another in contravention of the Act;
- (ii) to be in possession of, or to possess with intent to supply to another, a controlled drug in contravention of the Act; it is a defence to the offence of possession that, knowing or suspecting it to be a controlled drug, the accused took possession of it for the purpose of preventing another from committing or continuing to commit an offence and that as soon as possible after taking possession of it he took all such steps as were reasonably open to him to destroy the drug or to deliver it into the custody of a person lawfully entitled to take custody of it;
- (iii) for the occupier or someone concerned in the management of any premises knowingly to permit or suffer on those premises the smoking of cannabis: or the production, attempted production, supply, attempted supply, or offering to supply of any controlled drug.

The offences listed above are arrestable offences

Section 8. A person commits an offence if, being the occupier or concerned in the management of any premises, he knowingly permits or suffers any of the following activities to take place on those premises, that is to say:

- (a) producing or attempting to produce a controlled drug in contravention of section 4 (1) of this Act;
- (b) supplying or attempting to supply a controlled drug to another in contravention of section 4 (1) of this Act or offering to

supply a controlled drug to another in contravention of section 4 (1) of this Act;

- (c) preparing opium for smoking;
- (d) smoking cannabis resin or prepared opium

Criminal Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1967

Section 5. Failing to give Information. Where a person has committed an arrestable offence, it shall be the duty of every other person who knows or believes:

- (i) that the offence or some other arrestable offence has been committed; and
- (ii) that he has information which is likely to secure, or to be of material assistance in securing, the apprehension, prosecution or conviction of any person for that offence;

to give that information, within a reasonable time, to a constable and if, without reasonable excuse, he fails to do so then that person is committing an offence.

This places an onus on individuals to inform a constable.

The Law permits a member of staff to take temporary possession of a substance suspected of being a controlled drug for the purposes of protecting a young person from harm and from committing the offence of possession. The staff member should take the suspected drug and any associated equipment as soon as possible to the designated teacher/principal/leader in charge or line manager. He/she should arrange for its safe storage until it can be handed over to the local police to identify whether or not it is a controlled drug.

Staff should not attempt to analyse or taste an unidentified substance.

