

SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

A. Statement of Policy

As a part of Street School's commitment to safeguarding the health of its students, to providing a safe environment for all students and to supplying its students with the highest service possible, this Policy establishes Street School's position on the use or abuse of alcohol, drugs, or other controlled substances by its students. Because substance abuse can seriously endanger the safety of staff and students and render it impossible to supply top-quality service, Street School has established this program to detect users and remove abusers of alcohol, drugs, or other controlled substances from the school.

Street School has a “no tolerance policy” which prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, presence, or use of alcohol, drugs, or other controlled substances on its property. Students violating this prohibition will be disciplined which may include temporary suspension or permanent dismissal from Street School.

The purpose and intent of this Policy are:

1. To provide clear guidelines and consistent procedures for handling incidents of students' use of alcohol, drugs or controlled substances that affect performance and to make every effort to institute and maintain a drug-free environment at Street School.
2. To provide substance abuse prevention education for all students which includes problem recognition and other matters addressed in this Policy.
3. To offer a helping hand to those who need it, while sending a clear message that the illegal use of drugs, alcohol and controlled substances is incompatible with attendance at Street School.

The essential parts of this Policy are as follows:

1. Drug-Free Awareness Education Programs which will be made available to staff and students on a periodic basis.
2. Street School will utilize drug testing to help administer this Policy. This Policy applies to all Street School students and includes the following.
 - a. Assistance is available to all students for the purpose of dealing with any alcohol or drug problems.
 - b. All students, and their legal guardian if the student is a minor, will be asked to sign a copy of this Policy to acknowledge that they received a copy of this Policy.
 - c. All students will be advised of this Policy during the intake process, and the Policy will be signed by students and a parent and/or guardian.

B. Explanation of Terms

1. Legal Drugs

“Legal Drugs” are medications prescribed by a physician and over-the-counter medications at recommended doses. Street School prohibits the use or abuse of Legal Drugs to the extent that performance or fitness for school is adversely affected. Students shall notify their counselor or other designated individual when taking any Legal Drugs whether or not such drugs might affect their performance or create a health or safety hazard. Upon request, the student shall furnish Street School with the physician's statement regarding the possible/probable side effects of the medication.

2. Illegal Drugs

“Illegal drugs” include both alcohol and controlled substances that under federal or state law are not authorized for sale, possession or use and Legal Drugs that are obtained or distributed illegally. The manufacture, use, possession, sale, purchase or transfer of Illegal Drugs by any person at Street School is prohibited. Any possession of, use of or being under the influence of any Illegal Drugs on Street School property is absolutely prohibited.

C. Testing of Students

At the time of submitting to a drug and alcohol test, the student must complete, sign and date a Consent and Release Form and their signature must be witnessed and dated. All students under the age of 18 must also have their legal guardian sign and date the form.

1. Reasonable Suspicion Testing

A student will be asked to submit to a drug and alcohol test if reasonable suspicion exists to indicate that such student is using or has used Legal Drugs or Illegal Drugs in violation of this Policy. Factors that could establish reasonable suspicion include, but are not limited to:

- a. sudden changes in school performance;
- b. repeated failure to follow instructions or operating procedures;
- c. violation of Street School safety policies;
- d. involvement in an accident or near-accident;
- e. school-related injuries;
- f. discovery or presence of Illegal Drugs in a student's possession;
- g. odor of alcohol and/or residual odor peculiar to some chemical, drug or other controlled substances;
- h. unexplained and/or frequent absenteeism;
- i. personality changes or disorientation;
- j. arrest or conviction for violation of a criminal drug statute;
- k. Street School receives a report of substance abuse provided by a reliable and credible source;
- l. Street School possesses evidence that a student has tampered with any substance abuse test during his or her enrollment at Street School; and
- m. Street School possesses evidence that a student has used, possessed, sold, solicited, or transferred any drugs or alcohol while on Street School's premises.
- n. Any talk of drugs or alcohol at school.

2. Testing

- a. All students are subject to random testing under this Policy. Such random testing will be conducted if there is a reasonable suspicion.
- b. All testing will be done by a licensed lab chosen by Street School that is licensed by the Oklahoma Department of Health to perform drug tests. Street School will determine the substances for which testing will be performed.
- c. All results and any related information will be kept confidential. The counselor will keep a copy of the tests results in the student file.
- d. If a student is in possession of an illegal substance, they have forfeited their rights, and the authorities will be contacted.
- e. After a confirmed positive test result, students may, at their option and expense, have a retest done on the same specimen. A student will not be allowed to submit another specimen for testing.
- f. Upon notice to the Street School counselor that the drug and alcohol test result was confirmed positive, the student shall have the right to explain, in confidence, the reason(s) for the test result.

D. Searches

1. Street School reserves the right to require students to:
 - a. Submit to the search of their person and/or any personal article while on Street School premises or while on Street School functions, including field trips.
 - b. Submit to seizure of any controlled substance found in their possession. Suspected illegal substances will be turned over to appropriate law enforcement authorities. Students will be required to furnish Street School with a physician's name and/or prescription for confirmation of the prescription of a legal substance found in the student's possession.
 - c. Submission to a personal search of personal articles as used above shall include the search of any vehicle brought upon Street School premises. A personal search also includes a search of items within the student's locker, desk area, lunch box, baggage, purse, pockets and vehicles.
2. Searches or inspections of a student's locker, desk area, lunch box, baggage, purse, pockets and vehicles may be conducted at the discretion of Street School staff from time to time without prior announcement.
3. A student's refusal to consent to a search of his or her person or personal effects will result in the immediate suspension of the student pending a Street School investigation, and Street School shall treat the incident as though the student has had a confirmed positive test for drugs.
4. The purpose of such searches or inspections under this Policy is to determine whether any student possesses or has the presence of alcohol, drugs, or controlled substances in their possession.
5. A search or inspection of the student or the student's clothing or possessions will be conducted by a person of the same sex as the student being searched, as well as witnessed by a member of the Street School staff and shall be conducted in a place and manner designed to protect the student's privacy.

E. Disciplinary Action

1. Any student determined, in accordance with the terms of this Policy, to be engaged in the improper use, possession, distribution, purchase, sale, or transfer of any Illegal Drug while on Street School property will be removed from the school, may be required to undergo testing and will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including permanent dismissal from Street School.
2. Any student who tests positive for drugs or alcohol will be removed from the school and will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including permanent dismissal from Street School. Refusal to submit to a drug and alcohol test shall be treated as if the student had a confirmed positive test for drugs or alcohol, and the student will be subject to discipline according to the terms of this Policy.
3. Students who are found to be in possession of Illegal Drugs or who have tested positive for Illegal Drugs may be subject to criminal investigation and/or prosecution.

F. Miscellaneous Matters

1. All information, interviews, reports, statements, memoranda, and test results, written or otherwise, received by Street School through its drug and alcohol testing program are confidential communications, except under circumstances outlined by federal and state law.
2. In any of the inspection or testing situations described in this Policy, if Legal Drugs are detected and the student is able to prove medical or professional authorization for the prescription, Street School reserves the right to contact the individual's physician or professional.
3. No part of this Policy, or any of the procedures thereunder, is intended to affect Street School's right to manage its school or to discipline its students.
4. If any part of this Policy is determined to be void or unenforceable under state or federal law, the remainder of the Policy, to the extent possible, will remain in full force and effect.
5. Street School reserves the right to change the provisions of this Policy at any time. Written notice of all changes or modifications to the Policy will be given to students thirty (30) days prior to the implementation of the changes or modifications. Students will be required (and their legal guardians, if applicable) to agree to the revised policy.

The undersigned student and legal guardian of the student (if the student is under the age of 18 as of the date of receipt of this Policy) acknowledge that he/she/they have received a copy of this Substance Abuse Policy and agree that the student will comply with Policy and all disciplinary measures included in this Policy.

Printed Name of Student: _____ Age: _____

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name of Legal Guardian of Student: _____

Signature of Legal Guardian of Student: _____ Date: _____