



# PINEHURST PRIMARY SCHOOL

DISCEMUS UT SERVEMUS

## SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY POLICIES

### POLICY: DRUG, ALCOHOL AND SMOKING POLICY

POLICY REF #: 05/2016

#### 1. POSITION STATEMENT

The school acknowledges that our pupils may be exposed to a wide variety of addictive and harmful substances in society. Substance use and abuse is dangerous and often illegal and is detrimental to the mental, physical, social and emotional development of the pupils. The school is concerned with the development of character and values amongst its learners, and seeks to inculcate appropriate and acceptable behaviour in all contexts. We therefore strive for total prohibition of these substances as this is in the long term interests of the children.

The parents have the responsibility of educating their children regarding the harmful effects of these substances, guiding them to make right choices and limiting the exposure of their children to these substances. The school seeks to share responsibility with parents in educating Pinehurst children regarding the harmful effects of these substances and the acceptable consumption of alcohol and use of tobacco by adults entitled by law to do so.

The school acknowledges their responsibility in giving guidance to the children to avoid these substances through the life skills program.

#### 2. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this policy, "drugs" refer to illegal mind altering and habit forming substances including the over use of over the counter and prescription drugs.

Alcohol refers to any liquid that has alcohol as part of its volume.

Smoking refers to the smoking of cigarettes, cigars, pipes and marijuana.

"Use of" refers to the use of the substance by the person themselves, or the giving of assistance to someone else to use the same.

"At School" refers to the following:

- On the school premises
- Anywhere while wearing a school uniform
- Out of uniform on a school-related activity. Eg Tours, outings, class party, school social
- In any circumstances where they would be identified as learners of Pinehurst Primary School, thereby bringing the school into disrepute.

### 3. SCHOOL POLICY

It is not permitted for children to be in the possession of or consume alcohol, be in the possession of or use drugs or smoke whilst still at school, and the school cannot condone in any circumstances, the use of these substances by children attending Pinehurst.

Staff and Parents may not be in the possession of or consume alcohol or be in the possession of or under the influence of drugs or smoke:

- On the school premises.
- Whilst responsible for transporting pupils at/to school related activities.
- At any school related activity or social occasion.

Staff and parents should also in no event bring the school into disrepute through unacceptable behaviour resulting from consumption of alcohol or use of drugs.

### 4. EXPECTATIONS FROM TEACHERS

A teacher is required to promptly report to the Principal, any occurrence where children are seen to be consuming alcohol or using drugs or smoking in contravention of this policy or appear to be behaving in an intoxicated/influenced manner.

The Principal will, in conjunction with parents, consider what action to take on receiving such reports.

Pinehurst recognises that teachers can play an important role in preventing underage consumption of alcohol and smoking and the illegal use of drugs, and seeks through its staff to foster an environment where the consequences and penalties for such use are clearly understood and enforced.

### 5. DISCIPLINARY PROCESSES

All matters contravening South African law will be reported to the South African Police Services for appropriate criminal action. The school reserves the right to take action should the learners substance abuse outside of school affect his/her academic achievement, attendance and behaviour.

Each case where this policy is contravened will be assessed and considered individually within the framework of the policies and events. The pupils parents will be called in for a meeting with the Principal and learner and will be referred to the schools Governing Body who will form a disciplinary council to hear the case according to the rules laid down by the SA Schools Act. Disciplinary meetings can result in a request for suspension or expulsion being forwarded to the Head of the Western Cape Education Department.


Where a staff member in authority reasonably suspects that a learner has a prohibited substance in their possession at school, a search may be carried out by an appointed staff member in the presence of a senior staff member, the learner and a representative from the school of their choosing present. Any search will be carried out under the prevailing legal precedures laid down by the Western Cape Education Department and the South African law.

Pinehurst reserves the right to request parents who are in the possession of alcohol and drugs or are smoking at school to remove such from the school.

Parents that smoke, drink or use drugs while transporting or supervising children to/at school functions and outings will not be allowed to transport and supervise learners other than their own children at any future school activity.

Signed:   
Chairman Pinehurst Primary Governing Body

Date: 2016/6/8

Signed:   
Principal Pinehurst Primary School

Date: 2016/05/13