



Oshwal Academy Nairobi

Substance Abuse Prevention Policy

PART A

Preamble

Oshwal Academy Nairobi, acting upon the expectation of the Oshwal Community and of parents that the school provides the most conducive learning environment, recognizes that unless the school and its students are safe from the trafficking and/or consumption of psychoactive substances, optimum conditions for learning will not exist.

The trafficking and/or use of psychoactive substances is a criminal offence and Oshwal Academy Nairobi will not aid the concealment of any offence committed by students on the school rolls. Consequently, any student suspected or found to have committed an unlawful or criminal act is liable to be reported to the appropriate authorities. The consequences arising from such action will not be the responsibility of Oshwal Academy Nairobi.

Policy Application

All students of Oshwal Academy Nairobi.

This policy will also apply to students on the school rolls who go on trips/excursions/functions.

Policy

- It is the policy of **Oshwal Academy Nairobi** to promote and maintain a safe, healthy, and productive school environment free from the use of psychoactive substances, for the benefit of its students, the clientele, and the community at large.
- **Oshwal Academy Nairobi** considers the use of psychoactive substances to be a very serious issue and attaches great importance to its commitment to maintain a school environment free from such substances.

Therefore:

- The distribution, dispensing, possession, use of or consumption by any student of **Oshwal Academy Nairobi** of psychoactive substances including alcohol, illicit drugs, narcotics or any similar intoxicant is strictly prohibited. Any student violating any part of this policy is subject to serious disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from school.
- Any student who is found within any of the campuses of **Oshwal Academy Nairobi** and is reasonably suspected to have consumed a psychoactive substance shall be subjected, upon the approval of the campus head and after consultation with the student's parent/guardian, to such medical tests as are found necessary to ascertain the state of the student's physical and mental health with a view to ensuring that such student receives suitable treatment, counseling and advice. The medical tests shall be carried out at a reputable medical facility selected by **Oshwal Academy Nairobi**, and the cost of the test will be borne by the parent.

- The academy reserves the right to use sniffer dogs to conduct random checks of the campus premises and random searches of students and students' property brought onto the campus.
- In the interests of ensuring that all students attending its campuses are in good physical and mental health and are not exposed to psychoactive substances, **Oshwal Academy Nairobi** shall expel any student who is reasonably suspected to have consumed a psychoactive substance and:
 1. who personally objects to medical testing; AND/OR
 2. whose parents object to medical testing; AND/OR
 3. who declines to attend rehabilitation or counseling sessions or receive treatment as required by **Oshwal Academy Nairobi**; AND/OR
 4. Whose medical tests confirm the use of psychoactive substances on instances of testing.
- As part of the maintenance of a drug-free school environment, **Oshwal Academy Nairobi** will promote regular substance abuse education programs for all students.

PART B

Procedure for the implementation of the policy:

1. All students who are at any time reasonably suspected of psychoactive substance use will be tested under the Substance Abuse Prevention policy.
2. The school reserves the right to test any student.
3. Parents/Guardians may request to have their child tested at a reputable medical facility acceptable to the school, subject to the results being sent directly to the school.
4. The school officials shall treat all information received from medical tests carried out on any student with strict confidence.
5. The test screen will determine the presence of any psychoactive substances including alcohol, cocaine, marijuana, tobacco, miraa or any other substance recognized by NACADA as hazardous.
6. The school shall ensure that a parent or guardian of a child whom the school intends to subject to medical tests is duly notified before the tests are conducted and the parent/guardian shall be accorded an opportunity to be present during the testing.
7. Students will be summoned to the office of the campus head and notified of the intended testing on the day the testing is to be conducted.
8. Test results obtained by the school administration will be communicated to the student's parents/guardians.
9. An individual testing positive may choose to have a test redone and provide the results within 72 hours. Such re-tests will require a witness from the school at all stages.
10. Any student found to be deliberately tampering with results or falsifying records will be expelled. Students will also be expelled if parents have falsified records.
11. Students who have been subjected to testing shall continue to attend normal classes until the results are received.
12. Any student seeking admission in the Academy will have to undergo the test at the venue chosen by the school at the expense of the parents.

PART C

STUDENT VOLUNTARILY SEEKING HELP FOR ALCOHOL OR OTHER DRUG-RELATED PROBLEMS

1. Students are encouraged to seek help for problems with or related to psychoactive substances.
2. The school counselor may be approached by the students seeking voluntary assistance, either for themselves or for their friends. Any communication between a student and student counselor shall be treated with strict confidence provided that:
 - a. the student's health is not in imminent danger;
 - b. the information does not indicate that the health or safety of another individual is threatened and does not reveal any criminal activity.
3. The student's age, quantity/frequency of psychoactive substance use, and the length of time a student continues to use such substances will be given consideration in deciding whether to initiate a referral to a community/government/private agency.
4. The student counselor will continue to work with a student seeking help voluntarily for an extended period of time. However, when no progress is apparent, alternative action will be taken by the school as deemed suitable.

PART D

RE-ADMISSION OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN DISMISSED FROM SCHOOL

- The school is aware of its responsibility to the community and will readmit students if:-
 - a. The parents have admitted the student in a rehab center and the center recommends the re-admission of the student.
OR
 - b. The student has been rehabilitated. AND
 - c. The student and the parents sign an undertaking that the school's substance abuse prevention policy will be respected.
- Such re-admission will be subject to extensive consultations between the Head Teacher, the Senior Management team of the respective campus and the Oshwal Education and Relief Board. In cases of application for readmission, the school's decision will be final. Such re-admissions will be conditional and will be subject to periodic review

Each student shall be treated in accordance with the particular circumstances of his/her case and the cooperation of each student and his/her parents/guardians is vital in determining the best course of action to ensure the physical and mental health of the student. Oshwal Academy Nairobi is committed to ensuring that its students receive an education that will ensure a drug-free future for them as adults.