



HOLY FAMILY ROMAN CATHOLIC SEPARATE SCHOOL DIVISION NO. 140

OPERATIONS AND PROCEDURES

CATEGORY: SCHOOL OPERATIONS

TITLE: STUDENT CONDUCT

CODE: 5144 Alcohol and Drugs

Reference Matrix	
Education Act (1995)	Sections 85, 87, 108, 109, 150 – 155, 175
Other Related Acts	<i>Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (LAFOIP)</i>
Holy Family Related Procedures	OP 5137 Interview and Searches by Staff From Other Government Agencies OP 5141 Student Conduct OP 5142 Student Discipline
Holy Family Related Manuals	School Handbook
Resources (Ministry, SSBA, SCSBA, etc.)	What Parents Need to Know, Ministry of Health
Date Reviewed	April 23, 2014

Background:

The objective of teaching about alcohol, drugs, and tobacco is the development of personal values that will assist the individual to reject psychological and physiological dependence on artificial stimulants.

The school is expected to implement the alcohol, drug, and tobacco education programs that are contained in the various course of study and which are approved by the Board of Education.

Schools are encouraged to support programs which:

- Increase awareness of the risks associated with the use of alcohol and drugs;
- Discourage the use of alcohol and drugs.

The following activities are prohibited on school property and at authorized student activities:

- Possession and/or use of alcohol;
- Possession and/or use of illicit drugs;
- Inappropriate use of prescription and non-prescription medication.

For the purposes of this OP, the above definitions together constitute “illegal substances.” Persons under the influence of the above substances are prohibited from being on school property or participating in authorized student activities. Further, “school property” is defined to include the geographic and physical spaces (such as buses or other authorized vehicles) operated and/or approved by Holy Family School Division and extends to properties off campus where school-sponsored activities occur, including arenas, recreation areas, and overnight accommodations utilized during any off-campus excursions. Activities must be formally sanctioned by school division to be deemed a school sponsored activity. For example, a student party on the weekend and/or week night in the community, even if consisting of primarily of students from the school division, is not deemed as a formally sanctioned school system activity, nor does the division assume responsibility.

Procedures:

1. Student Conduct - Alcohol and Drug Abuse by Students

- 1.1. Principals are authorized to confiscate alcohol, drug products, and associated paraphernalia from persons who are in contravention of this OP governing the use of these on school property.
- 1.2. As per [OP 5137 Interviews and Searches by Staff From Other Government Agencies](#), principals or delegated staff members are allowed to conduct searches when warranted.
- 1.3. The individual student who becomes involved in the use of alcohol and/or drugs requires therapeutic and rehabilitative treatment not necessarily punitive action.
- 1.4. In any situation in which a student is suspected of alcohol or drug abuse, a principal must use discretion in determining a course of action, at all times taking into consideration the welfare of the individual involved.
- 1.5. In an emergency situation, the immediate care of the student is the primary concern. Parent(s)/guardian(s) of a student who is behaving abnormally due to possible drug use should be immediately informed of the situation and the action taken.
- 1.6. The school will inform and encourage parent(s)/guardian(s) to utilize the professional services and resources within the community and, if feasible, cooperate to help resolve the problems leading to the use of alcohol or drugs by the student. The school and teachers can become effective aides to the professional agencies in the rehabilitation process for students.
- 1.7. The Principal may set up an in-school committee composed of staff members and consultants to investigate, study, and diagnose a situation in which a student's educational development appears to be adversely affected due to

problems created by alcohol or drug misuse. The Principal shall see that the rights of the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student are observed according to *The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (LAFOIP)*.

1.8. The Principal will make a determination, based on the facts of the incident and restrictions of *The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (LAFOIP)*, as to whether a communication release needs to be sent to parent(s)/guardian(s) of a specific class or group of students within the school community.

2. Student Discipline - Possession of Alcohol or Drugs

2.1. If a student is suspected of being in possession of alcohol or drugs in the school or on school property, the Principal may, without the assistance of the police, initiate or authorize a search.

2.2. Any student found to be in possession of alcohol and/or drugs in the school or on school property will be subject to suspension in a manner consistent with [OP 5142 Student Discipline](#).

3. Student Discipline - Distribution or Sale of Alcohol or Drugs in the School

The Board and staff are concerned with the moral well-being of the entire school population. Special efforts must be made to prevent the school from becoming a market in which the use of alcohol or drugs, or the sale of these, is spread.

3.1. If a Principal suspects alcohol or drug distribution in the school, he/she should review the matter with the Superintendent of School Operations.

3.2. The distribution or sale of alcohol or drugs is a criminal offence. If a student is suspected of distributing or selling alcohol or drugs at school, such student shall be reported to the police.

3.3. A student convicted of the distribution or sale of alcohol and/or drugs at the school shall be subject to discipline in a manner consistent with [OP 5142 Student Discipline](#).