



## SUBSTANCE MISUSE POLICY

*Reviewed: September 2022*

### **Philosophy:**

Hua Hin International School condones neither the misuse of harmful substances nor the illegal supply of these substances. In order to ensure a healthy and safe community, the school has instituted a “targeted drug testing” policy. When it appears that a student’s academic performance and/or health is jeopardised by harmful behaviours in or out of school, or if there is any other cause that leads the school to suspect substance misuse, the school will intervene to aid the individual. The school believes that shared responsibility with parents is essential to the successful implementation of the substance misuse policy and will keep parents informed at all times.

### **Policy and Procedures:**

The targeted drug testing policy states that the school will administer drug tests upon any reasonable suspicion of substance misuse with permission of the parents. Potentially harmful substances include but are not limited to: illegal drugs, prescription and over the counter drugs, alcoholic beverages, inhaled stimulants.

A positive result would not automatically lead to the student being asked to leave the school. However, if the student remained in school an action plan would be put in place to assist the student and his/her family. Part of this plan would include counselling from the teachers. If a student returned to school after a positive test, he/she would be subject to further testing at the total discretion of the school. If a subsequent test proved positive, the student would be asked to leave the school.



The school will permanently exclude any student found to be using, possessing or distributing drugs or harmful substances on the campus or on any school-sponsored activity. Where a student is involved in similar behaviours outside school then the appropriate sanctions will be decided by the Headteacher on a case by case basis. This may also include permanent exclusion.

The school reserves the right to inspect personal property such as lockers and bags if we believe there is sufficient cause for doing so.

#### **Educational Programme:**

Our educational programme acknowledges the importance of pastoral care in the welfare of young people, and, through the general ethos of the school, will seek to create a climate within which pupils in need of support will come forward.

#### **The curriculum is designed:**

- to prevent substance misuse;
- to enable students to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and developing and practising skills such as responding to peer pressure;
- to provide accurate information about harmful substances;
- to increase understanding of the implications and possible consequences of substance misuse;
- to widen understanding of related health and social/emotional issues;
- to seek to minimise the risks that users and potential users face;
- to enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support.

#### **The programme is delivered through:**

- Tutorial and PSHE sessions
- Physical Education and Science curricula