

STUDENT ALCOHOL AND DRUG MISUSE POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine is responsible for providing a safe environment for those who study and work here under the Health and Safety at Work Act. We make every reasonable effort to ensure that the welfare of others is not jeopardized by the misuse of alcohol or illegal substances.
- 1.2 This document provides guidance for students enrolled on a course of study at the School and may be read together with the [Student Charter](#) and the [Student Cause for Concern Policy](#).
- 1.3 The consequences of misusing drugs and alcohol are many and include, but are not limited to: temporary and permanent impaired judgment and ability; absenteeism; reduced productivity and serious damage to physical and mental health.

2. ALCOHOL

- 2.1 The legal drinking age in the UK is 18 years of age. Misusing alcohol, especially in public, can be a criminal offence, as is [driving under the influence of alcohol](#), and can lead to arrest and prosecution. For more information see [UK public order legislation](#).
- 2.2 Attending any School teaching or programme activity while under the influence of alcohol is not permitted and can lead directly to disciplinary or other institutional action. Alcohol can put your physical and mental health at risk, it can impair your judgment, and may lead to depression and dependency. Further information on the risks associated with alcohol is available from the [National Health Service \(NHS\)](#)

3. DRUG MISUSE

- 3.1 The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine prohibits the possession, use and distribution of any controlled or illegal drug by any member of the School, whether they are on or off School premises.
- 3.2 To be in possession of drugs or using or distributing illegal and controlled substances may lead directly to disciplinary or other institutional action. Information on the risks associated with drugs is available from the [National Health Service](#).
- 3.3 The possession, use and distribution of controlled or illegal drugs may also be a criminal offence that can lead to arrest and prosecution.
- 3.4 Further details about the UK Misuse of Drugs Act and penalties/legal sanctions that are applicable to those who contravene the Misuse of Drugs Act are available from the Home Office (UK Government) website on [Drugs and the Law](#)

4. YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- 4.1 As a student, you must ensure that your behaviour and work or study performance is appropriate while you are engaged in School activity and that you are not under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- 4.2 You should be aware that the reduction of alertness or impaired judgment associated with alcohol or drug consumption can compromise the health and safety of the person involved or others.
- 4.3 You must not bring illegal substances onto School premises under any circumstances.
- 4.4 We advise you to contact the [Student Advice and Counselling Service](#) if you are taking prescribed medication that could affect your ability to study.
- 4.5 If you believe that you have an alcohol or drug related problem, you should seek help as soon as possible to avoid the problem becoming worse.

5. COUNSELLING AND SUPPORT

- 5.1 The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine is committed to promoting the health and wellbeing of its students and will ensure that any student with alcohol or substance dependency problems has the opportunity to be directed to support for a range of matters including Alcohol and Drugs misuse via the School's [Student Advice and Counselling Service](#).
- 5.2 Other sources of help and support:

Alcohol

- [Alcoholics Anonymous](#)
- [Al-Anon](#)
- [Alcohol Concern](#)

Drug Misuse and Dependency

- [Frank](#)
- [Narcotics Anonymous](#)
- [Families Anonymous](#)
- [Drug Scope](#)
- [Release](#)

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