

## HTS DRUG POLICY



HTS Rustenburg endeavors to do its best for its learners. In order to remain relevant and adapt to changing times and circumstances, the following acknowledgements are made:

- HTS is part of a greater community
- HTS is in partnership with parents to ensure the best for their children
- A wide range of habit-forming and addictive substances are readily available
- Children are exposed to these substances
- Children, parents and teachers are not always adequately informed
- Drugs, habit-forming substances and alcohol abuse are harmful to humans
- Children have to be equipped adequately so that they will be less susceptible to substance abuse and better able to cope with the demands of life.

HTS regards any form of substance abuse as unacceptable and accepts the challenge to ensure a drug-free school. Therefore learners who need help will be given assistance without having their school careers jeopardized.

### 1. Preventative policy

Signing this policy document is a prerequisite for admittance to the school.

The school undertakes to do the following each year:

- 1.1. Provide all learners with information and preventative sessions
- 1.2. Provide parents of learners with information and preventative sessions.
- 1.3. Provide teachers with information and training.

- 1.4. Use non-school organizations and persons as consultants where necessary
- 1.5. Support positive pressure groups
- 1.6. Assess and adapt the policy if necessary
- 1.7. Advocate a healthy, alcohol and drug-free life in word and deed.
- 1.8. Arrange random searches of schoolbags, classrooms and lockers as well as learners by any staff member, the SAPD or SANAB or any suitable instance as approved by the principal.
- 1.9. Enforce alcohol and drug tests during extra-mural activities.
- 1.10. Keep the guardian system operational throughout the year.

### 2. Policy regarding the use of substances

Using non prescribed habit-forming substances is strictly forbidden

- 2.1. during school hours
- 2.2. on school grounds
- 2.3. in school uniform
- 2.4. during extra-mural activities on school grounds or tours, at camps, sports gatherings, dances or any school activity.

NB: The school reserves the right to act according to policy and procedure if the drug abuse of a learner **out of school** affects his/her academic achievement, behavior or attendance.

### 3. Policy regarding selling drugs

Selling or being in possession of drugs during school hours, on the school grounds, in school uniform and during extra-mural activities on the school grounds or school tours, at camps or dances IS TOTALLY FORBIDDEN.

NB: Possessing or selling forbidden substances is a criminal offence. Should any learner be found or suspected of doing either, the matter will be investigated and the learner referred to the SANAB if necessary.

4. Policy regarding the handling of drug cases by the school as embodied by the SGB, principal and teachers.

Each case will be handled on merit according to the policy and procedure.

Each case will be handled confidentially, but parents/guardians will be involved.

Isolated symptoms or rumors will not be used as indicators, but instead, a pattern of indicators, e.g. changed behavior or attendance will be examined.

Supported rumors will be examined.

NB: This is not a process of victimization but rather an honest effort to identify a child in crisis in time.

#### 5. Guardian system

Learners will be referred to identified sources for assessment and treatment. Parents will be held responsible for any costs incurred unless alternative arrangements are made with the school.

The four relevant parties, viz. the school, the parents/guardian, learner and instance or person giving treatment, will enter into a signed agreement which will stipulate that:

- a. a process of treatment will be agreed upon
- b. urine tests can be done at random, parents being responsible for payment
- c. the school is responsible for controlling the tests
- d. the achievement, behavior and attendance of the learner must show improvement
- e. parents must approve the providing of progress reports to the school by the instance giving treatment
- f. should parents and/or learner decide to terminate treatment, the school will assume that the agreement is cancelled and the learner will leave the school.

The school reserves the right to recommend that such a learner be referred to another school.

Disciplinary matters will be handled as such and run concurrently with the guardian system.

Signed at ..... on this ..... day  
of ..... 20.....  
Parent / Guardian.....  
Learner.....  
On behalf of school .....

#### 6. Guidelines: handling of learners with drug problems

- 6.1. A drug policy must be available
- 6.2. Parents must sign the policy when their children are admitted
- 6.3. Train staff members to observe early signs of drug abuse
- 6.4. Appoint a panel to deal with such learners.
- 6.5. Pass information to the SAPD and/or SANAB
- 6.6. Keep program confidential in order to protect relevant learners.

Date: .....

Dear Mr / Mrs .....

CONTRACT / AGREEMENT

Following the discussion of the problem your child .....in grade..... has manifested, the principal and SGB of HTS requires you and your child to enter into the following agreement:

1. Your child must become part of the rehabilitation program of ..... as an out-patient. The duration of the program will be determined by ..... and progress reports will be provided to the school regularly. Group therapy will be part of the program and you will have to attend such sessions if and when requested by the therapist.
2. Your child must be in therapy for at least one year. The therapist will determine the frequency of these sessions. The school requires quarterly progress reports and can make recommendations.
3. The school reserves the right to do random urine tests and requires your written permission. If tested positive a blood test will follow within 24 hours. Parents will give consent to this and it will be for their account.
4. The principal and/or his representative will conduct follow-up interviews with your child if and when necessary.
5. The following are expected from your child:
  - 5.1. regular school attendance – please inform us personally if there is a problem.
  - 5.2. improved academic progress
  - 5.3. neatness
  - 5.4. involvement in school activities
  - 5.5. no involvement with drugs, alcohol or habit-forming substances
  - 5.6. strict adherence to the school rules and policy.

We expect full co-operation from you as well as from your child. Honesty and sincerity are not negotiable. Any setback must be brought to our attention immediately.

As a statutory body we reserve the right to refuse your child the right to attendance at this school should he/she not adhere to the above requirements. Any further involvement with drugs or similar substances will lead to immediate eviction.

Please note that you are responsible for any costs incurred by the above processes.

REMARKS.....  
.....  
.....  
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Signature:  
Principal: .....  
Witness: .....  
Treating party: .....  
Witness: .....  
Parent/guardian: .....  
Learner: .....

I,..... parent/guardian of ..... hereby give permission that random urine tests be done on the above-mentioned child.

I understand and accept the conditions stipulated above and undertake to pay any costs thus incurred.

Signature:  
Father /Guardian: ..... Mother / Guardian: .....

Telephone numbers:  
Home: ..... Work: .....  
Cell: .....

Home address ..... Postal address .....

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