

	Policy
	Policy Category: Health and Safety
	Date Created: 18 March 2024
	Policy Name: Centre Exclusion – Substances Policy

The purpose of this operational policy is to keep children and adults safe by meeting Licensing Criteria HS33.

Position Statement

As children's safety and others at the centre is paramount it is important that we, at the centre, are able to exclude those people whose behaviour is detrimentally affected by alcohol and/or other drugs who may put children and others safety at the centre at risk.

Issue Outline

Adults can sometimes, either by accident or intent be under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. When this occurs, behaviour can change and normal health status can be adversely affected. Children can sometimes become under the influence of alcohol or other drugs by accident or as a result of the actions of others. When this occurs, the effect on a child can be both serious and long-lasting.

Detail

General:

- Children have a right to be protected from the harmful effects of alcohol and other drugs or from those under the influence of these substances.
- Children believed to be under the influence of alcohol or other drugs arriving at the centre will be treated as if seriously ill. Urgent medical attention will be sought. Parents will be advised and appropriate agencies may also be informed (Ministry of Vulnerable Children, Police, etc).
- Teachers/Staff under the influence of alcohol or other drugs either at or within proximity of the centre, or elsewhere wearing a centre uniform, are in breach of the Centre's Staff Rules and will be subject to disciplinary proceedings.
- Other adults (including parents) visiting the centre who are believed to be under the influence of alcohol and/or other drugs will be asked to leave the premises. Children will not be released into the care of an adult believed to be under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. Other agencies may be involved by centre management in order to take steps to protect children or other adults at the centre.

Alignment with Other Policies

This policy aligns with the Child Protection Policy.

Relevant Background (including legislation/regulation references)

Licensing Criteria 2008, Health and Safety, Child Protection:

- **HS33:** No person on the premises uses, or is under the influence of, alcohol or any other substance that has a detrimental effect on their functioning or behaviour during the service's hours of operation.

Impacts of Policy on Teachers, Parents, Children

Following these procedures will ensure that the environment is safe for children and adults (teachers, parents and other visitors) at the centre.

Alignment with the Centre Philosophy

This policy ensures a safe environment, a crucial part of creating and maintaining the well-being of children in our care.

Implications and/or Risks

- Harm being caused to adults or children at the centre
- Children's safety at the centre being compromised
- Drunk, disorderly, abusive or 'out of control' persons coming onto the premises affecting the people and the operation of this service.

Implementation

Clear procedures have been developed and teachers trained to follow them.

Review

Review annually or when there is a significant change in the area of the policy topic.

Authorised:	
Date:	
Review Date:	
Consultation Undertaken:	Emailed Board, Teachers via staff room notice board and parents via foyer notice board and storypark