

Nurture ~ Believe ~ Discover ~ Achieve

Safa Vision

At SCS we aim to enable our learners to have success for today and to be prepared for tomorrow.

نحن في مدرسة الصفا كوميونيتي نسعى الى تأهيل طلابنا للنجاح اليوم وتحضيرهم
لمواجهة المستقبل

Anti Drug and Smoking Policy 2025 - 2026

1. Purpose

This policy establishes the school's approach to preventing drug use, in line with UAE Federal Law and the Ministry of Education's *Guide to Drugs Prevention at School Environment* (2021). It aims to protect students' health, ensure a safe learning environment, and raise awareness about the risks of narcotics and psychotropic substances.

2. Legal Framework

- **Federal Decree Law No. 30 of 2021 (Combating Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances)**
 - Prohibits possession, use, trafficking, or promotion of illegal drugs.
 - Penalties include imprisonment, fines, and deportation for expatriates.
 - Rehabilitation is encouraged for first-time offenders, especially youth.
- **Federal Law No. 14 of 1995 and amendments** (as summarized in the Guide)
 - Abuse of narcotics is a punishable crime (6 months–2 years imprisonment, plus fines).
 - Strict penalties for trafficking and promotion, including possible death penalty for dealers.
 - Encourages voluntary treatment: abusers who seek rehabilitation (through themselves or relatives) are exempted from prosecution*Guide to Drugs Prevention in Sc...*
- **Ministry of Education & National Program for Drug Prevention (SIRAJ)**
 - Promotes prevention, awareness, and early intervention in schools.
 - Recognizes the role of families, schools, and community in protecting youth*Guide to Drugs Prevention in Sc...*

3. Definitions

- **Illegal Drugs:** Narcotics and psychotropic substances as classified by UAE law (e.g., cannabis, heroin, cocaine, Captagon).
- **Prescription Medication:** Legally prescribed by a licensed doctor; misuse is punishable by law.
- **Over-the-Counter Medication (OTC):** Medicines available without prescription, still requiring parental disclosure to the school nurse.

4. School's Stance

- **Zero Tolerance:** Any possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs is strictly prohibited.
- **Prescription & OTC Medicines:** Must be submitted to the school nurse with a doctor's note and parental approval. Misuse will be treated as a disciplinary and legal matter.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Students:**
 - Adhere to school rules, refuse narcotics, and report any incidents.
 - Develop life skills to resist peer pressure.
- **Parents:**
 - Foster strong parent-child relationships based on trust and respect.
 - Monitor friendships, academic performance, and early signs of risk
- **Staff:**
 - Remain vigilant for behavioral, physical, and environmental indicators of drug use (as outlined in the Guide, e.g., sudden decline in performance, secrecy, unusual packaging, odors)
 - Refer concerns promptly to school leadership.
- **School Leadership:**
 - Enforce clear policies and procedures.
 - Coordinate with relevant authorities (police, health, social services).
 - Ensure staff receive the appropriate training.
 - Provide preventive education and awareness sessions.

6. Procedures for Handling Incidents

1. **Suspicion/Discovery:** Report immediately to Principal.
2. **Investigation:** Conducted confidentially with respect for student rights.
3. **Parental Notification:** Parents informed at earliest stage.
4. **Authority Notification:** If illegal substances are involved, the case must be reported to UAE authorities (in compliance with Federal Law).
5. **Consequences:** May include suspension, expulsion, and/or referral to rehabilitation, in line with UAE legal provisions.

7. Prevention and Education

- Awareness activities in partnership with authorities, covering harms, laws, and protective behaviors
- Curriculum integration of life skills: decision-making, coping with stress, and resisting peer pressure.
- Teacher and counselor training to recognize and address early warning signs.

8. Confidentiality and Support

- While schools must comply with reporting requirements, they will also provide **pastoral support and counseling**.

- Students will be referred to UAE-approved rehabilitation centers (e.g., National Rehabilitation Center in Abu Dhabi, Erada Center in Dubai)
Guide to Drugs Prevention in Sc...

9. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure alignment with updates to **UAE legislation** and the **Ministry of Education's prevention programmes**.

Key Reference: *Guide to Drugs Prevention at School Environment* (Ministry of Education & Ministry of Interior, 2021) – especially Chapters 4 (Prevention in Schools), 5 (Provisions of Federal Law No. 14/1995), and 6 (Treatment & Rehabilitation Services)