



## **KCM Weapons, Dangerous Objects and Substance Policy**

Under no circumstances should a weapon, a dangerous object or substance - anything designed or used for inflicting bodily harm or physical damage - be brought into the School. If a student is discovered to have brought a weapon into the School the police may be informed if we feel necessary, the student may be placed on a fixed term exclusion, and a disciplinary hearing may be carried out.

At this hearing the following issues will be discussed:

- how the weapon was found, discovered or reported,
- the nature of the weapon,
- the location and storage of the weapon on the School's site,
- knowledge of third parties as to the weapon being in the School,
- what the perceived purpose was of having the weapon in the School, and
- preceding behaviour and attitude of the student whilst attending our school and previous schools where information is available.

Following this hearing and depending on the nature of the circumstances and weapon, as well as the contextual information, one of the following sanctions will be put in place:

- a permanent exclusion will be recommended to the CEO by Head of the School\*
- a further fixed term exclusion will be issued, where the grounds for doing so are met, or
- an agreement will be reached whereby the student will spend an agreed period of time working with the community learning team on specific targets that, when met, will facilitate reintegration back onto the School's site.

\*Whereas it is acceptable for a permanent exclusion to be recommended if the student is in Key Stages 3, 4 or 5, the contextual information will be evaluated in a differentiated way for students in Key Stages 1 and 2 and it will not always be the case that permanent exclusion will be recommended for this age group, although this still remains an option.

Weapons include guns, pellet guns, BB guns, airguns, replica guns, knives, num-chukkas, death stars and other martial arts objects; screwdrivers, hammers, chisels, bradles and any tool that could be used offensively; razors, razor blades, aerosols, chains; dangerous substances and chemicals etc. This list is not exhaustive but it should be noted that weapons also describe 'home-made' implements manufactured to injure, threaten or intimidate.

If an item such as a pair of scissors is picked up in the School and used or threatened to be used as a weapon then any sanction referred to in the behaviour management policy may be used. If a student hands in a weapon to a member of staff before they have been challenged about it being in their possession, the outcome of this incident will be negotiated with the Head of the School. Members of staff can use reasonable force to protect themselves against a weapon, or when retrieving a weapon from an individual or group. In the circumstances of a student being unwilling to hand over a weapon to a member of staff the police will be called using 112. In this instance staff may use whatever proportional physical intervention is necessary to retrieve the weapon and / or to protect the safety of all.



If a weapon is discovered in the possession of a pupil, then it will be taken by the DSL or member of the SLT and kept in a secure place by the Headteacher. The pupil and their family should assume that the weapon may not be returned to them, depending on the circumstances. It should also be assumed that the weapon may need to be handed to the police.

### **Review**

This document will be reviewed on an at least annual basis by the safeguarding team.

Drawn up by: DSL April 2021	Reviewed & Updated:
Approved : Inspired Board June 2021	Next Review : June 2023