



WEAPONS POLICY

The Principal, March 2010
Formal Review Date: March 2011



WEAPONS POLICY

Statement of Policy:

No student or nonstudent, including adults and visitors, shall possess, use or distribute a weapon when in the Academy except as provided in this policy. The LA will act to enforce this policy and to discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, Academy employee or member of the Community who violates this policy.

The Aim of this policy is:

- To assure a safe Academy environment for all students, staff and Academy personnel.

Definitions:

1. A “weapon” means any object, device or instrument designed as a weapon or through its use is capable of threatening or producing bodily harm or which may be used to inflict self-injury including but not limited to, any firearm, whether loaded or unloaded; airguns; pellet guns; BB guns; all knives; blades; clubs; metal knuckles; poisons; chains and objects that have been modified to serve as a weapon.
2. No person will possess, use or distribute any object, device or instrument having the appearance of a weapon and such objects, devices or instruments shall be treated as weapons including weapons which are broken or non-functional, look-alike guns; toy guns; and any object that is a facsimile of a real weapon.
3. No persons shall use articles designed for other purposes (i.e. lasers or laser pointers, belts, combs, pencils, files, scissors, etc.) to inflict bodily harm and/or intimidate and such use will be treated as the possession and use of a weapon.
4. “Academy location” includes any Academy building or grounds, whether leased, rented, owned or controlled by the Academy. The area of entrance or departure from the Academy or events, all locations where Academy functions are conducted, and anywhere students are under the jurisdiction of the Academy.

Exceptions

A student who finds a weapon on the way to the Academy or in the Academy location, or a student who discovers that he or she accidentally has a weapon in his or her possession, and takes the weapon to the Assistant Vice Principal or Vice Principal’s office, shall not be considered to possess a weapon. If it would be impractical or dangerous to take the weapon to the Assistant Vice Principal/Vice Principal’s office, a student shall not be considered to possess a weapon if he or she immediately notifies a member of staff of the weapon’s location.

Consequences for student weapon possession/use/distribution

The Academy takes a position of “Zero Tolerance” in regard to the possession, use or distribution of weapons by students. Consequently, the minimum consequence for students possessing, using or distributing weapons shall include:

1. Immediate out of school suspension;
2. Confiscation of the weapon;
3. Immediate notification of the Police;
4. Parent or guardian notification; and
5. Recommendation of an exclusion for a period of time (possible permanent exclusion)
6. Referral to PRU/alternative educational provision other than the Academy.

Consequences for weapon possession/use/distribution by non students.

Any member of the Academy staff who violates this policy is subject to disciplinary action, including nonrenewal, suspension, or discharge as deemed appropriate by the TRUST.

Law enforcement may be notified as appropriate.