



The
COUNTY
HIGH SCHOOL
Leftwich

Achieving Excellence

Document Control Sheet

Document Type	Policy
Document Name	Searching Screening & Confiscation
Originator	Sarah du Plessis
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This document is part of the group which include	Safeguarding, Behaviour for Learning, Anti-Bullying, Acceptable Use, Online Safety, Exclusions, Policy Statement Additional & Special Education Needs, Drugs' Education, Use of Images, Student Illness, Accident & First Aid, Recruitment, Supporting Students with Medical Conditions, Single Equality Scheme, Transgender and Health & Safety Policies
Equality Act 2010 fully considered	Yes
EIA Form Completed	Yes

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Searching Screening & Confiscation

1. At The County High School Leftwich, staff are expected to maintain the safety and positive wellbeing of its students and deal with breaches of our 3 clear behaviour expectations in order to ensure that all students are safe.
2. Instances where it is necessary to search for, screen and confiscate items in order to maintain those standards are extremely rare but on such occasions, however infrequent, appropriate guidance will be followed.
3. This policy is a response to the guidance document providing advice by the Department for Education (*Searching, screening and confiscation, Advice for headteachers, school staff and governing bodies, January 2018*). As such, The County High School, Leftwich pays cognisance to the following advice found within the named document.
4. Key Points from the Guidance are as follows:
 - 4.1. **Searching**
 - 4.2. School staff can search a pupil for any item if the pupil agrees.
 - 4.3. Headteachers and staff authorised by them have a statutory power to search pupils or their possessions, without consent, where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil may have a prohibited item. Prohibited items are:
 - 4.3.1. Knives or weapons
 - 4.3.2. Alcohol
 - 4.3.3. Illegal drugs
 - 4.3.4. Stolen items
 - 4.3.5. Tobacco and cigarette papers
 - 4.3.6. Fireworks
 - 4.3.7. any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used:
 - 4.3.8. to commit an offence, or
 - 4.3.9. to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil).
 - 4.3.10. Headteachers and authorised staff can also search for any item banned by the school rules which has been identified in the rules as an item which may be searched for.
 - 4.4. **Confiscation**
 - 4.4.1. School staff can seize any prohibited item found as a result of a search. They can also seize any item, they consider harmful or detrimental to school discipline.
 - 4.5. **Screening**
 - 4.5.1. Schools can require pupils to undergo screening by a walk-through or hand-held metal detector (arch or wand) even if they do not suspect them of having a weapon and without the consent of the pupils.
 - 4.5.2. Schools' statutory power to make rules on pupil behaviour and their duty as an employer to manage the safety of staff, pupils and visitors enables them to impose a requirement that pupils undergo screening.
 - 4.5.3. Any member of school staff can screen pupils.