



Attachment 4 to the Code of Conduct of the DSK

GUIDELINES CONCERNING DRUG ABUSE AND THE PREVENTION OF DRUG ADDICTION AT THE DEUTSCHE SCHULE KAPSTADT

The following guidelines and principles form an integral part of the agreement between parents and the DSK. A written acceptance of these principles is a prerequisite for admission of the child to the School.

1. Introduction

The DSK's aim and obligation is to provide sound higher education and see to the welfare of each pupil attending the School. The School endeavours to face the changing conditions and challenges of modern society in partnership with the parents. The School and parents are aware of the fact that our pupils are exposed to and have access to legal and illegal mind altering drugs (which are freely available in our society).

The DSK is rising to the challenge and supports the principle that drug abuse is not acceptable.

We do not, however, primarily regard young people with drug problems as disruptive elements in the school's daily life. Rather, we are aware that drug abuse often stems from deeper underlying causes such as personal crises or problems in the family, at school or in the pupil's circle of friends. We prefer to take the entire person into consideration and as such we endeavour to assist him/her as much as possible.

Nevertheless, the School is obliged to provide an environment in which the illegal use of drugs has no place.

2. Obligation with regards to prevention

The responsibility of raising children to lead a healthy drug-free life rests primarily with the parents. The School plays a supportive role in this regard.

In order to prevent drug abuse, the School must:

- § organize regular prevention and information presentations for all pupils,
- § hold regular prevention and information presentations for the parents,
- § support further training for teachers concerning this topic,
- § co-operate with experts from relevant organizations,
- § support the founding and activities of anti-drug groups in the school,
- § develop and maintain a support program for pupils in need of help.

3. Ban on use of drugs and dealing in drugs

The use of any illegal mind altering substance, without doctor's prescription is strictly forbidden during School time, on School property (at all times), and when the pupil is wearing School clothing. The School also reserves the right to institute appropriate measures if a pupil is found abusing drugs outside the School.

Dealing in drugs in or out of School is strictly forbidden at all times.

Dealing in drugs is a criminal offence. Should there be serious suspicion that a pupil is dealing in drugs, he / she will immediately be suspended from School. An investigation will take place which may involve the police.

A further breach of this ban will be dealt with in accordance with the School's regulations.

4. Measures open to the School

For early identification of pupils who find themselves in a crisis situation, the School will undertake the following steps:

- § Immediate following up on valid suspicion of drug use; if required, drug tests will be carried out with consent of the parents concerned. Although single symptoms and rumours are not considered sufficient proof of drug abuse, a certain pattern of behaviour (e.g. a drop in academic results, a lack of motivation, marked behavioural changes, irregular school attendance), will necessitate investigation.
- § The investigation will be undertaken by selected teachers who are specially qualified. If necessary, experts from outside the School will be consulted.
- § Each case will be dealt with confidentially. However, the parents of the students in question may be informed and involved with the consent of the student.

Concerning pupils with a proven drug problem

- § The guidelines of the drug support program will be implemented:
- § the pupil concerned will be referred to recognized organizations for further counselling and therapy,
- § the parents are liable for all costs incurred in this regard including the drug tests required by the School,
- § all parties (School, parents, therapy institute or person) will agree to the proposed treatment in writing.
- § The consent entails:
- § the therapy structure (format it will take),
- § the right of the School to institute and control tests,
- § the right of the School to be informed about the progress of the treatment,
- § the right of the School to immediately expel the pupil concerned if the treatment is stopped on his/her own cognizance or that of his/her parents.

During the treatment period the pupil will be expected to improve his/her conduct and to attend School regularly again.

Hermann Battenberg
Principal

January 2011