BELVEDERE
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

DRUG-FREE SCHOOL POLICY 2026-2027

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Approvals:			
Principal	**Mr. Ismat Daou**		
Signature		*Date:*	01/9/26
BIS Board of Governors	**Dr. Naim Alradi**		
Signature		*Date:*	2/9/26

1. Purpose

Belvedere International School is committed to maintaining a safe, healthy, and drug-free educational environment for all members of the school community.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure a safe, healthy, and drug-free environment for all members of the school community. This is achieved through prevention, awareness, and the implementation of clear procedures in alignment with ADEK guidelines.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all members of the school community within the school environment, including:

- Students
- Parents and guardians
- Teaching, administrative, and support staff
- Third Party Providers and visitors

3. Definitions

Term	Definition
Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances	Substances affecting mental or physical functioning prohibited under UAE law unless prescribed.
Misuse	Inappropriate or unauthorized use of substances.
Prohibited Substances	Any narcotic, intoxicating, or harmful substance or paraphernalia not permitted in school.
At-Risk Student	A student showing indicators increasing vulnerability to misuse.

4. Policy Statement

Belvedere International School adopts a strict zero-tolerance approach towards drugs, stimulants, and psychotropic substances.
The school strictly prohibits:

- Possession, use, consumption, or distribution of narcotics or psychotropic substances
- Misuse of prescription medication
- Alcohol
- Tobacco, vaping devices, and smoking-related items
- Solvents and intoxicating substances
- Drug-related paraphernalia
- Any substance impairing health, safety, or wellbeing

The school adopts a preventive and supportive approach promoting awareness and wellbeing.

Where required, the school will coordinate with parents, ADEK, and relevant authorities in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

Any disciplinary action arising from breaches of this policy will be addressed in accordance with applicable regulatory procedures and in alignment with the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, Behaviour Policy, and drug-Free school procedures.

*Note: Refer to **Appendix (A)** for Drug-Free School Procedures.*

5. Roles and Responsibilities

5.1 Students

- Attend all awareness sessions
- Follow school rules and make safe choices
- Report any concerns to a trusted adult

5.2 Parents

- Ensure regular attendance and engagement
- Maintain communication with the school
- Support preventive awareness at home

5.3 Staff

- Monitor student behaviour and wellbeing
- Report any concerns immediately
- Support awareness and prevention initiatives

5.4 School Leadership and Social Worker

- Implement awareness programs
- Ensure compliance with this policy
- Handle all reported cases confidentially
- Communicate with parents and relevant authorities

5.5 Student Council

The Student Council plays a supportive and non-disciplinary role in:

- Promoting awareness among students
- Encouraging positive and responsible behaviour
- Participating in school awareness campaigns
- Supporting school initiatives related to safety and wellbeing
- Acting as positive role models in maintaining a safe and drug-free environment
- Enhancing student voice and peer awareness

Note: *The Student Council does not have any disciplinary or reporting responsibilities.*

9. Communication and Dissemination

This policy will be communicated to the school community through:

- Official school emails
- School platforms and website
- Student platforms (Google Classroom / ClassDojo)
- Staff meetings
- Parent meetings

10. Student Belongings Search

The school does not permit random or routine searches of students' belongings. Any search may only be conducted in cases of reasonable suspicion and must be carried out by designated school leadership in accordance with ADEK guidelines. All procedures must ensure full respect for student privacy, dignity, and wellbeing, and must be properly documented. Parents will be informed when appropriate.

11. Compliance Statement

Belvedere International School is committed to ensuring full compliance with ADEK regulations by implementing, monitoring, and regularly reviewing this policy to maintain a safe and drug-free learning environment.

Appendix (A): Drug-Free School Procedures

1. Prevention and Awareness

The school ensures continuous awareness through:

- Student awareness workshops
- Parent awareness sessions
- Staff training and briefings
- Integration of life skills and decision-making in lessons
- Awareness messages through official platforms (Google Classroom, ClassDojo, Email)

2. Identification and Reporting Procedures

In case of concern, the following procedure will be followed:

1. Observation of concern by staff
2. Immediate confidential reporting
3. Documentation of the case
4. Referral to the Social Worker and School Leadership
5. Parent notification
6. Monitoring and support

3. Intervention and Escalation

- Appropriate support and guidance will be provided to the student
- Continuous monitoring will be maintained
- Necessary actions will be taken in line with school policy
- Cases will be escalated to ADEK when required

4. Monitoring and Review

The school ensures:

- Continuous monitoring of attendance and engagement
- Tracking of student behaviour and participation
- Documentation of parent communication
- Regular follow-up and reporting