

Policy on drugs and substance misuse

Policy statement

Children's Services will ensure that no one in the foster home is ever under the influence of drugs or other similar substances

Policy status

Children Act 1989

Care Standards Act 2000

Fostering Services (Wales) Regulations 2003

National Minimum Standards

Key points

1. Young People will be discouraged from taking drugs or misusing other substances and information regarding the harmful effects that occur physically, mentally and emotionally will be given to them.
2. Carers will act as good role models at all times. This means that drugs or other substances will not be permitted on the carer's premises, unless prescribed medication, which will be stored in a locked cabinet.
3. Under no circumstances should carers provide illegal drugs to children. Illegal drugs should not knowingly be held in a carer's home. If the carer finds illegal drugs on their premises then they should notify the child's social worker immediately.
4. Clothing should not advertise the misuse of drugs (or other substances).
5. Where a young person or a carer has a known substance misuse or drug problem, the fostering service will encourage and support them by directing them to an appropriate source of help. A decision will be made as to whether the carer should continue fostering at this time.
6. Any misuse of illegal drugs or substances will result in Termination of Approval.
7. Any misuse of illegal drugs or substances will be reported to the police and could result in prosecution.