



Drug Awareness and Prevention Policy & Action Plan

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1.0	Drug Awareness and Prevention Policy & Action Plan	Final	SLT	Principal/Vice Principal	September 2025	June 2026
Regional Director		Principal		Vice Principal		
Head of Foundation Stage		Head of Primary		Head of Secondary		

Introduction

Newlands School is committed to creating a safe, supportive, and drug-free environment. This policy is aligned with the UAE National Program for Drug Prevention (SIRAJ), the Drugs Prevention at School Environment Guide (2021), and Federal Law No. 14 of 1995 on combating narcotics and psychotropic substances

Policy Objectives

1. Prevent the use of narcotics and psychotropic substances within the school.
2. Reduce the demand for drugs by raising awareness and instilling positive values.
3. Equip students with life skills to resist peer pressure and make healthy choices.
4. Provide early detection and timely intervention for at-risk students.
5. Reinforce the roles of staff, parents, and community partners in prevention.
6. Ensure reintegration and rehabilitation support for affected students.

Roles and Responsibilities

Principal

- Ensure implementation of drug prevention policies.
- Coordinate with health, security, and social authorities.
- Oversee awareness campaigns and staff training.
- Monitor policy enforcement and compliance.

Teachers

- Act as positive role models.
- Integrate awareness into lessons (Science, Social Studies, PSHE).
- Observe and report behavioral/physical indicators of drug use.
- Promote life skills such as decision-making and peer-pressure resistance.

School Councilor

- Provide counseling and early intervention for at-risk students.
- Run awareness sessions for parents and students.
- Develop individual support/reintegration plans in partnership with treatment centers

Students

- Adhere to school rules and code of conduct.
- Report peer pressure, bullying, or suspected cases of narcotics.
- Engage in healthy extracurricular, sports, and volunteer activities.

Parents

- Build strong, trust-based relationships with children.
- Attend school workshops on drug awareness.
- Monitor friendships, online safety, and leisure activities.
- Collaborate with the school in supporting intervention and rehabilitation.

Preventive Measures & Action Steps**A. Awareness and Education**

- Annual awareness campaigns on health, social, and legal impacts of drugs.
- Integration of drug prevention messages into curriculum subjects.
- Themed assemblies and participation in International Anti-Drug Day. (Day/date)

B. Capacity Building

- Annual training for teachers, counselors, and administrators on early detection.
- Dissemination of official government materials (Siraj program resources).

C. Life Skills Development

- Structured sessions on decision-making, problem-solving, refusal skills, and coping with stress.
- Encouragement of sports, arts, volunteering, and cultural activities.

D. Early Detection & Intervention

- Monitoring systems for attendance, behavior, and performance.
- Confidential referral pathways to counselors/school leaders/ child-protection team
- Clear reintegration plans for recovering students, avoiding exclusion.

E. Policy & Enforcement

- Zero-tolerance for possession, promotion, or distribution of narcotics on school grounds.
- Alignment with Federal Law No. 14 of 1995: strict penalties, but provision for treatment and rehabilitation.
- Clear Code of Conduct communicated to students and parents annually.

Partnerships

Collaboration with Dubai Police – Anti-Narcotics Department, healthcare authorities, and rehabilitation centers (e.g., Erada, Al Amal Hospital).

Joint awareness campaigns and referral systems.

Monitoring & Evaluation**Strategic Indicators**

- Increased percentage of students reporting increased awareness of drug risks.
- Reduction in new cases of substance use at school.
- Number of preventive programs delivered annually.

Operational Indicators

- Number of trained staff.
- Number of students engaged in awareness/life skills programs.
- Parent participation rates in workshops.
- Number of referrals managed according to policy.

Review Cycle

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) in consultation with KHDA directives, UAE law updates, and stakeholder feedback.

Conclusion

This policy reinforces Newlands School's commitment to the UAE's national drug prevention strategy (SIRAJ), ensures compliance with legal frameworks, and promotes a culture of safety, resilience, and wellbeing across the school community.

Age Groups Eligible for Dissemination

1. Early Childhood (3-5 years/ FS -FS 1- FS2)

Focus	Very basic safety rules
Content	Traffic safety, safe use of bathrooms, knowing body boundaries, safe medication use (with parents).
Approach	Stories, play-based activities, simple rules.

2. Late Childhood (5–10 years / Primary Y1–Y6)

Focus	Understanding rules and healthy lifestyle.
Content	Harms of smoking, safe use of social media, importance of laws and rules
Approach	Interactive sessions, games, projects, role-play.

3. Adolescence (11–16 years / Secondary Y7–Y13, including IGCSE/AS/AL)

Focus	High-risk stage; strong emphasis on refusal skills and resisting peer pressure.
Content	Detailed awareness of narcotics, misconceptions, UAE laws, peer influence, online safety, decision-making.
Approach	Structured sessions (≥10 hours per year), workshops, debates, simulation activities

UAE Legal Framework

The National Program for Drug Prevention (SIRAJ) mandates that all public and private schools and universities deliver preventive education.

Federal Law No. 14 of 1995 criminalizes abuse and promotion of narcotics, but provides protection and rehabilitation routes for minors and students who voluntarily seek help.

The Guide explicitly instructs schools to embed preventive education across all phases — early childhood through adolescence — not just in secondary years.

Drug Prevention Curriculum Map (FS–Y13)

Aligned with UAE National Program for Drug Prevention (SIRAJ)

Age Group / Year	Focus	Content	Delivery Method
FS1–FS2 (3–5)	Safety, trust, healthy habits	Safe/unsafe substances, body boundaries, healthy lifestyle	Stories, puppet shows, songs, role-play
Y1–Y3 (5–8)	Rules, healthy choices	Laws & rules, dangers of smoking, family & friends, feelings	Interactive games, discussions, posters
Y4–Y6 (8–11)	Resistance skills & social awareness	Harms of smoking, correcting misconceptions, social media safety, peer pressure	Projects, debates, storytelling, simulations
Y7–Y9 (11–14)	Resilience & refusal skills	Myths vs facts, peer pressure strategies, UAE law, volunteering & positive lifestyle	Case studies, role-play, awareness week, guest speakers
Y10–Y11 (14–16)	Critical thinking & law	Health, social & psychological effects, UAE law, rehab & seeking help	Workshops, debates, campaigns, law awareness with police
Y12–Y13 (16–18)	Leadership & advocacy	Addiction & rehabilitation, community responsibility, peer mentoring, Siraj program	Peer mentoring, volunteering, research, awareness projects