



HILTON COLLEGE

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HEADMASTER: GJ HARRIS B.A. Hons (Wits)

9 March 2017

Dear Parents,

Re: Substance Abuse Policy

We have updated our policy that governs illegal substances at Hilton. This is a very important matter given the pressures that many of our boys are under from peers, and it encompasses the two predominant areas: performance-enhancing substances and 'recreational' substances.

We believe it is important to be proactive and engaged on this matter as it is a significant temptation for many young adults. At a school assembly, I highlighted the matter of being associated with and being a part of this great school and suggested that the *Hilton brand* be understood to be ethical and beyond reproach. The *Hilton brand* is the sum of all its parts, in particular the boys, hence I emphasised that we all need to be ethical and beyond reproach.

The Substance Abuse Policy clearly states that being found in a compromised position regarding illegal substances carries the strongest school sanction. The arguments in mitigation if one was found to be in a compromised position regarding illegal substances, e.g. being on holiday or off campus at the time, do not hold up against this policy. In other words, should a boy test positive for an illegal substance, regardless of where or when this imbibing occurred, he will be subject to our strongest sanction.

We believe that when one signs up to Hilton, one makes the decision to live by the codes and practices that have defined, and continue to define, gentlemanly behaviour in its fullest sense and as such ethics in all matters, and especially concerning illegal substances, is our gold standard.

Please take time to read through the policy and to discuss this with your son. It is significantly important.

Kind regards,

George Harris
Headmaster