

White Trees
independent school



Offensive weapons policy

See also Curriculum policy & What we do & how we do it policy.

Our vision is to provide pupils with the confidence, skills and ambition to achieve a successful and productive life. We aim to ensure they leave the school with a 'new day, new opportunity' ethos and are capable of becoming positive members of their communities. To do this, we have 3 principles that underpin our policies, practices and everything we do:

- Everyone can learn, achieve and has the potential to be successful
- Positive relationships are key to success and are underpinned by mutual trust, respect and caring for one another
- We have high expectations in everything we do

Wonderful

Excellent

Lovely

Clever

Outstanding

Magnificent

Enthusiastic

(Acronym created by White Trees pupils)

Policy owner

April 2024

Date Created

August 2025

White Trees School

January 2020

Last review

Next review

White Trees School Offensive Weapon Policy

Reviewed by SLT and the Governing Body, June 2020
Created by the Head Teacher, April 2020

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INTRODUCTION

It is illegal to carry knives or other offensive weapons on and around school premises. The Governing Body at White Trees Independent School recognises that the presence of weapons in the school would not only create unacceptable risks of bullying, injury or death, but also create a climate that undermines the educational purposes of the school. Accordingly, it is the school's policy to forbid the possession, custody and use of weapons by unauthorised persons in, on or around the school premises and school activities. No pupil or other person shall bring a weapon into the school zone, nor carry or keep any weapon within the perimeter of the school site or while attending or participating in any school activities. These rules apply at all times except where a weapon is issued to a pupil by the school or required by the school for the purpose of teaching a curriculum activity. Misuse of such items will be dealt with as though possession was not authorised.

For the purpose of this policy a "weapon" is any firearm of any description, including starting pistols, air guns and any type of replica or toy gun. Knife, including all variations of bladed object including pocket knives, craft knives, scissors etc. Explosive, including fireworks, aerosol spray, lighter, matches. Laser pen or other object, even if manufactured for a non-violent purpose that has a potentially violent use, if, in the circumstances, the purpose of keeping or carrying the object is for use, or threat of use, as a weapon.

Any pupil found to be in breach of this policy shall be subject to action under the schools Behaviour Management Policy. This could mean a fixed period or permanent exclusion from school. In some circumstances the police might also be contacted.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The Executive Headteacher and Governing Body have a statutory responsibility for school behaviour, discipline and safety. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school. The policy along with other school policies is available for inspection by all stakeholders, relevant agencies and other authorised persons. The Governing Body will review the policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness.

The school's curriculum will ensure that pupils are all aware of the risks/consequences of carrying offensive weapons, also inviting the Police to come in on a regular basis to conduct presentations to the pupils addressing this issue. (Please see the curriculum policy)

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