



Substance Use Policy

Effective from: 2012
Designated person responsible: Safeguarding Officer
Overall responsibility: IGG's Executive Committee
Last Reviewed: 2019
To be reviewed in: 2022

Substance Use Policy

The substance use policy operates within the framework of the Irish Girl Guides' (IGG) mission statement and supports IGG's aims and objectives in providing a safe environment for its members, while enabling girls and young women to learn skills that will one day help them to be responsible citizens and adults.

IGG holds the Health Quality (HQ) Mark as a health-promoting youth organisation. IGG is committed to the development, health and well-being of all its members and incorporates health promotion in its programme which provides awareness on a number of areas including drugs.

In upholding IGG's values all members should provide an example they would wish others to follow. IGG expects all its members to comply with the policy below and, where necessary, will enforce the policy with disciplinary procedures as outlined in the IGG *Safeguarding and Child Protection* booklet.

Smoking

Anyone above the legal age for smoking must ensure that they smoke in a discreet, safe manner and in an appropriate legal place away from the girls and young women.

Alcohol

Adults at an event or residential experience involving girls and young women should exercise discretion regarding alcohol. They must abide by the legislation to do with the legal age for drinking alcohol, any guidelines set down prior to an event and the venue policy on the consumption of alcohol. In order to deal with an emergency or first aid incident, at least two adults must abstain from alcohol consumption, at least one of whom must be able to drive and have access to a car if possible.

Adults must not be under the influence of or consume alcohol during any Irish Girl Guide Unit meeting. (For the purposes of this policy adults must comply with the legal alcohol limit as stated under the Irish road traffic legislation).

Drugs

It is illegal to take non-prescribed drugs not sold over the counter, at any age, and the Irish Girl Guides has an obligation to ensure that the law is upheld.

Solvents

The Irish Girl Guides do not accept the misuse of solvent-based substances or inhalants by any of its members.