

## **ADDENDUM – ANNEXURE D**

### **EBEN DÖNGES HIGH SCHOOL**

**JANUARY 2010**

#### **TESTING OF LEARNERS FOR THE USE OF ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES**

According to the Education Amendment Act of 2007 (No. 31 of 2007), the principal or his/her delegate may randomly conduct a urine or any other non-invasive test on any group of learners when there are fair and reasonable grounds to suspect their use of illegal substances.

**1. Procedure to be followed when a learner/group of learners, as determined by the principal or his/her delegate, is subjected to a test for prohibited substances:**

- The urine test will be conducted by an accredited organisation such as SANCA Drug Testing Centre Parow, for example, according to the provisions of the law and circular 1140 of 2008.
- Should a learner refuse to accept a positive test result, he/she will be given the opportunity to be tested again immediately (after the first test, by the same organisation e.g. SANCA – on the same day). The school will regard a second positive result as conclusive.
- Should the parents/guardians refuse to accept the second positive test, the school will accept only blood test results from an accredited pathology laboratory. The slightest indication of the presence of prohibited substances will be taken as a positive result.
- Should a learner test positive for prohibited substances, the parents/guardians will be responsible for the cost of the urine test (SANCA R90-00 – 11/12/2009). Parents will be responsible for the cost of blood tests irrespective of the results of the test.
- Blood test results in writing on a letterhead of the accredited pathology laboratory, must be submitted to the principal within 24 hours after the testing.
- A learner's refusal to take a urine test for the testing of prohibited substances will be seen as a positive test for the use of prohibited substances.
- When a learner tests positive for the use of prohibited substances during the course of a year, the school reserves the right to enroll the learner the following year. The learner must submit a certificate (from an accredited institution) to indicate that the learner is not using prohibited substances. This certificate must not be older than 3 working days.

**2. When a learner tests positive, the procedure will be as follows:**

- The learner may resume school attendance only after he/she has attended an assessment appointment with SANCA or another accredited institution. An official letter from the institution, confirming that the appointment was kept and indicating dates for further sessions, must be submitted.

Parents/guardians are responsible for the necessary arrangements and costs of these appointments.

- On completion of these compulsory counselling sessions, the learner will be tested twice a month. This testing will continue for as long as SANCA and the school deem it necessary.
- If the learner does not attend the mandatory sessions at SANCA, the learner will be suspended immediately for 7 school days, pending the outcome of a disciplinary hearing by the Governing Body.

**3. Positive testing after the sessions with SANCA or another accredited organisation have been completed.**

- Should a learner test positive after counselling, the following procedure will be followed:

- the school receives immediate notification in writing that the learner has left the school permanently

**OR**

- the learner appears before the disciplinary committee of the Governing Body, which will recommend expulsion to the WCED

**OR**

- the learner is admitted to an accredited rehabilitation centre: (An official letter from the rehabilitation centre is required, informing the school of the duration of the programme). Parents are responsible for all costs.

- If the learner does not complete the entire rehabilitation programme, the Governing Body will hold a disciplinary hearing to recommend the expulsion of the learner to the WCED.

**4. Positive testing after a programme has been completed at an accredited rehabilitation centre**

- Should a learner test positive after he/she has been to a rehabilitation centre, the procedure will be as follows:

- the parents/guardians notify the school in writing that the learner has left the school permanently, with immediate effect

**OR**

- the learner appears before the disciplinary committee of the Governing Body, which will recommend expulsion to the WCED.