



## **SUBSTANCE USE POLICY**

Effective from: 2012  
Designated person responsible: Safeguarding Membership Officer  
Overall responsibility: IGG's Executive committee  
Reviewed 2016  
To be reviewed in: April 2018

## **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 has a Health Promotion 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 Code of Ethics and Good Practice.

### **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.*

### **Additional information;**

Further information on Substance Abuse can be found in 'Irish Girl Guides Handbook' under Membership Section.

Activities on Drug Awareness can be found in 'IGG Health Promotion Packs' which can be viewed or downloaded from the IGG Website.