

As of October 17, 2018, it will be legal for individuals **19 and older** to buy, use, possess and grow recreational cannabis. It remains illegal for anyone under the age of 19. This is the same as the minimum age for the sale of tobacco and alcohol in Ontario.

**Regardless of age, cannabis is not allowed on school property or at school-related events at any time.**

It is illegal for **anyone** regardless of age to smoke or vape any substance, including cannabis:

- at school, on school grounds, and all public areas within 20m of these grounds
- on children's playgrounds and public areas within 20m of playgrounds
- in child care centres, or where an early years program is provided
- in places where home child care is provided – even if children aren't present\*

*\*Please note that these are the provincial regulations and by-laws could be different at a municipal level*

There will be consequences for students if they are believed to be in possession or under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs or cannabis. Suspension will be considered. There are exceptions if the medicinal use of cannabis is outlined in the student's Health Care Plan. If a student gives alcohol or cannabis to anyone under the age of 19, the school will contact police, suspend the student and consider expulsion.

In YRDSB, we want families and students to be informed about the facts of cannabis legalization. To support this learning, you may find the following resources helpful . You can also request a hard copy through the school office.

[Cannabis: What Parents/Guardians and Caregivers Need to Know](#)

[Cannabis Talk Kit: Know How to Talk With Your Teen](#)

We will continue to provide students with information and support to make positive and healthy decisions.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school's administration.