



## **ANDERRIDA ADOLESCENT CARE**

### **ROOM SEARCH POLICY**

Staff must only search a room if they believe the young person is at risk, has illegal substances, articles that are putting them or others at risk, alcohol, dangerous articles, is harbouring a trespasser, or is in possession of belongings that they do not have permission to hold.

In these cases, the young person must be informed that a room search will take place and the reasons why. If they are not in the building, the staff must attempt to contact them to inform them of the room search. Wherever possible, staff should wait until the young person can be present before undertaking the search of the room.

When staff enter a young person's bedroom without the young person being present, there should ideally be a second member of staff to observe that the search is conducted in a fair and respectful manner. If this is not practical the individual staff member must alert a senior member of the team of their intention to undertake a room search and the reasons why, prior to doing so. The fact that they have done this and been given consent by a member of the on call/management team to conduct the search should be recorded on the incident report and room search log.

Any illegal substances found must be reported to the police who should collect them at their earliest convenience (see illegal drugs procedure) or guide us as to the best way to dispose of drugs. All other inappropriate articles found must be confiscated and clearly logged these may include drugs paraphernalia, money (if it is not safe for the child), weapons, alcohol etc.

The room search must be logged on the correct form and wherever possible, ideally the young person should sign to say the room search has taken place and what items have been confiscated.

#### **OTHER RELATED POLICIES**

- Illegal drugs policy