Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist (SAPS) Introduction

Each school pyramid has a Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist (SAPS) assigned to provide substance abuse prevention, education, and intervention services. Substance Abuse Prevention Specialists are part of the FCPS Office of Student Safety and Wellness.

Key roles of a Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist:

* Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug education for students, parents, and the Fairfax County Community
* Intervention services upon violation of the Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook or suspected substance use involvement
* Assessing a student’s level of substance use and, if appropriate, making referrals to the Fairfax Community Service Board for additional services or other community resources as appropriate
* Group and individual prevention services for students, staff, parents, and the Fairfax County community
* Most importantly, building positive relationships with students to provide support and encouragement

**Resources:**

* [Free Virtual Parent Support Group](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/juveniledomesticrelations/juvenile-intake/parent-support-group)
* [Free Online Narcan Training for Opioid Overdoses](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/community-services-board/news/2020/virtual-revive-training)
* [Free Lock Boxes for Medications & Firearms](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/community-services-board/prevention/lock-and-talk)
* [Spiritual Support by Phone for Adults](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/neighborhood-community-services/spiritual-support-phone-now-available-adults)
* [Spanish Podcast: Tips on How Parents Play an Important Role in Substance Abuse Prevention](https://anchor.fm/enpocaspalabrasfcps/episodes/11-Escuche-consejos-sobre-cmo-los-padres-desempean-un-papel-importante-en-la-prevencin-del-abuso-de-sustancias-entre-los-nios-e11kegk/a-a5mggbe)
* [Juvenile Court Parent Support Group](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a44abab29abf85-juvenile)

For general questions about the FCPS Substance Abuse Prevention Program, please contact the Office of Student Safety & Wellness at: (571) 423-4270.

For further Information & support:

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Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist