



Totnes St John's C E Primary School

Pathfields Totnes Devon TQ9 5TZ

Drug and Substance Misuse Prevention Policy

Aims of the Policy

It is the aim of this policy to educate the children to enable them to make informed choices about drug and substance use and misuse, as appropriate to their age.

As a school, we aim to:

- create an appropriately honest and open environment in which to extend the children's knowledge of drug and substance use and misuse.
- give the children accurate information regarding, for example:
 - the benefits of prescribed drugs
 - the legality of drugs
 - cultural influences
- foster safe attitudes towards themselves and others.
- develop skills related to healthy choices and behaviour.

For the purposes of this policy document, the term drug and substance misuse is taken to mean the use of some or certain substances producing a negative effect on education, social development, physical wellbeing and/or safety. Substance misuse may also have issues to do with legality. We would wish to equip children with accurate information and the skills to make choices and resist pressure they may meet at secondary school and beyond.

Substance and Drug Education Curriculum

The educational objectives of the substance and drug education curriculum of this school include areas of learning relating to 'knowledge and understanding', 'skills' and 'attitudes', organised within 2 key stages. Teaching and non-teaching staff will be sensitive to the aims of the policy at all times and present themselves as positive role models to the children.

Health and Safety

All hazardous substances, e.g.. cleaning fluids, solvents, etc., will be stored according to the school's Health & Safety Policy. All medication (inhalers, antibiotics, etc.) will be dealt with according to the same policy document.

First Aid and Emergency Procedures

In the case of drug or substance misuse, children will be seen by a trained first aider in the first instance, referred on to the head teacher and then to the emergency services.

Drug-related Incidents

We define drug-related incidents as incidents involving:

- Medicines: antibiotics, aspirins etc. brought to school by the child.
- Alcohol: child being in possession of alcohol or a child's breath smelling of alcohol.
- Cigarettes: child being in possession of cigarettes.
- Drug-related litter in playground etc. (syringes, foil, needles)
- Solvents: child found with solvent and suspected of sniffing it or displaying signs of having used solvents.
- Stories from home regarding drug use, etc.
- The possession of illegal substances

The school follows the following procedures for managing such an incident:

- Adult intervention
- Immediate referral to head teacher when solvent or alcohol misuse is suspected.
- Referral to teaching staff who may well have information about the home situation.
- The Head teacher will make a written record of incident and take appropriate action which may include:
 - - Communication with child

- Informing/working with parent(s)
- Involving Police Liaison Officer in an advisory role
- Involving external agencies, e.g. Social Services

Safe disposal of substances - refer to above, i.e. parents, police, etc.

Staff should remain aware at all times of the agreed guidelines regarding confidential disclosures as set out below.

Confidential Disclosures

The guidelines and ground rules for staff and pupils are in line with the confidentiality provisions in the school's Child Protection Policy, whilst aiming to build up an ethos/climate of trust and partnership between the school, parents and pupils.

School Trips and Social Events

It would not be expected that alcohol, tobacco or other drugs or substances would be taken by students on school trips, the exception to this being prescribed medication for life threatening conditions, the administration of which is the responsibility of the party leader, who must have the written permission from parents. Tobacco should only be smoked by adult supervisors whilst off the premises. Personal belongings, e.g.. handbags, and their contents are to be the responsibility of their owner and are kept in a safe place. The PTFA and hirers of the school hall must take a responsible attitude towards the use of alcohol at social events and smoking is to be permitted outdoors only. With reference to events that take place on school premises, e.g.. tombolas at the Fete, where prizes of alcohol are available, these will be only handed to adults.

Staff Issues

Teaching and non-teaching staff are to take a responsible attitude towards the use of alcohol and tobacco and must remain mindful of their ability to undertake their duties. Smoking during the school day must be off the premises and outside the building at other times, in accordance with Devon policy. Staff should present themselves as appropriate role models to the children. Provision of help and advice for staff who may require it, such as names and addresses of relevant organisations, is readily accessible and centrally located.

Training

Whole school training, in conjunction with the country PSHE advisers, will be provided as appropriate and will be reviewed at intervals.

Consultation

Parents will have access to all policies and these can be requested from the school office, and will be available where appropriate on the school website. The school maintains a liaison with the Police Community Liaison Officer, who regularly visits the school.

Implementation of the Policy

This policy comes into operation in September 2012. It is the role of the Co-ordinator to oversee implementation and it is the responsibility of all staff to implement the policy. It is the role of the governors to support staff and parents in the implementation of this policy. The policy will be deemed successful if it fulfils the aims and follows philosophy set out in Section 1.

Monitoring and Reviewing Policy

In order to maintain the effectiveness of the policy, ongoing monitoring will be carried out by the management team, drug co-ordinator and relevant governors.

Drug education programme - Curriculum framework

This is seen as part of the P.S.H.E. programme.

Version	Reviewed by	Last review date	Review cycle	Next review date
	Resources committee	7.6.16	4 years	June 2020