

Drugs Education Policy

Member of staff responsible for dealing with drug policy and related incidents: Jo Dent (HT)

**Definition - What is a Drug?**

A drug is a substance which, when taken into the body, changes the way we feel, the way we see things and the way our body works. This policy covers a range of drugs including medicines, tobacco, alcohol, solvents and illegal drugs.

**Rationale**

As part of the school's care and welfare of its pupils, we believe we have a duty to inform and educate children about drug use. Drugs are a reality in children's lives and schools share responsibility with parents and the community to educate pupils about the risks and consequences of drug use and misuse and to encourage them to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and practising skills. We also believe that the misuse of any drugs by members of the school community cannot be condoned and will be dealt with consistently and clearly with regard to the needs of the school and the individuals concerned. Fundamental to the school's values and practice is the principle of sharing the responsibility for the education of children with parents, keeping them informed and involved at all times. Effective communication and co-operation is essential to the successful implementation of this policy.

This school is committed to the health and safety of everyone here and we will work together with parents and the local community to enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices and discourage the misuse of drugs.

**Aims**

- To develop a whole school approach to drug education in the context of the Science curriculum and the Personal, Social and Health Education programme (PSHE).
- To provide accurate information about drugs, including medicines, alcohol and tobacco.
- To explore attitudes and develop skills in making decisions about drugs.
- To have a clear and agreed understanding among everyone in the school community about the implications and possible consequences of drug use/misuse.
- To develop pupil's skills in resisting peer pressure and develop their confidence to say no.
- To establish an atmosphere/environment/situation in which the school is free from the misuse of any drugs.
- To clarify appropriate procedures in the management of drug-related incidents.

**Guidelines**

- All pupils (at both Key Stages) will follow an integrated drug education programme which is responsive to their needs and relevant to their age, experience and maturity. It will be delivered through the existing curriculum, mainly Science and PSHE. It will focus on the development of self-esteem and decision making skills.
- All staff will be provided with adequate training and support, as required, to help them deliver effective drug education and respond to situations with consistency and sensitivity, taking account of religious, social and cultural issues.
- There is a procedure for the management of drug-related incidents, agreed by staff and governors, of which all parents and pupils will be made aware.
- We shall share responsibility for the education of pupils with parents, who will be kept informed and involved through newsletters, awareness-raising evenings and individual discussions when appropriate.

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- The school will work with other agencies to provide relevant information and co-ordinated support when required.
- The school has a policy/procedure for the administration of medicines that must be followed for everyone's safety.
- The whole school premises is designated a No-Smoking area.

### **Management of drug-related incidents**

The Headteacher will be responsible for co-ordinating the management of drug-related incidents, offering sources of support and liaising with outside agencies, including the media.

<b>Medicines:</b>	see school policy on administration of medicines.
<b>Tobacco:</b>	see No-Smoking Policy.
<b>Alcohol:</b>	no alcohol will be consumed on the premises during the course of a normal school day.
<b>Solvents:</b>	the school will ensure that potentially harmful substances are stored safely, and pupils supervised carefully in the event of them having to be used in the course of their work. The use of aerosol deodorants will be discouraged because of the potential risks to people with asthma or other bronchial problems. If children are using aerosol deodorants in school, they will be encouraged to use them as per product guidance.
<b>Illegal Substances:</b>	no illegal or illicit substances should be brought to school or used on school premises.

Sanctions, of appropriate severity will be applied to the intentional misuse of any of the substances described above by any member the school community on the school premises or while on school trips and visits.

To protect the health and safety of everyone in the school, regular checks will be made of the site to ensure that if found, drug paraphernalia, particularly syringes, are cleared away. Any found will be isolated and reported to the police.

Sanctions, up to and including permanent exclusions, will be applied for: -

- Possession of any drug with the suspected intention to misuse.
- Misuse of drugs on school premises.
- Supplying/dealing drugs for the purposes of misuse.
- Being in school whilst under the influence of recreational drugs, including alcohol.

Disciplinary action will be taken against staff involved in any of the above.

### **Conclusion**

The welfare of pupils & staff is of paramount concern. We will work together with everyone involved with the school to ensure the continued education & well being of all our children.

All staff and parents will be made aware of the contents of this policy, the implication for them and the education and welfare of pupils.

Policy date: Spring 2016

Review Date: Autumn 2020

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### EIA Screening

Groups that may be affected:

Are there concerns that the policy could have a different impact on any of the following groups?	Existing or potential adverse impact	Existing or potential for a positive impact
<b>Age</b> (young people, the elderly; issues surrounding protection and welfare, recruitment, training, pay, promotion)		
<b>Disability</b> (physical and mental disability, learning difficulties; access to buildings, curriculum and communication)		
<b>Gender reassignment</b>		
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>		
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>		
<b>Racial groups</b> (language, culture, ethnicity)		
<b>Religion or belief</b> (worship, religious or cultural observance, incl non-belief)		
<b>Sex</b> (male, female)		
<b>Sexual orientation</b> (gay, lesbian, bisexual; actual or perceived)		

Any adverse impacts are explored in a Full Impact Assessment