



# Milecastle Primary School

## Drug Education Policy



## MILECASTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

### DRUG EDUCATION POLICY

#### RATIONALE

All children will be exposed to situations involving the use and misuse of drugs as they grow up. We need to educate children in order that they have the knowledge, skills and attitudes to enable them to make appropriate choices and try to ensure that they can develop self worth and a sense of responsibility for their actions.

#### AIMS

1. To raise awareness of substances that have a detrimental effect on physical and mental well-being, including an understanding of what the effects may be and possible consequences of use and misuse of drugs.
2. To enable children to make healthy, informed choices and decisions by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and developing skills.
3. To promote confidence, self esteem and communication skills and develop a sense of responsibility for themselves and others.
4. To develop an awareness of peer pressure and other influences including the media that may lead to misuse of drugs
5. To inform parents of the work of the school in drug education, involve them in decision making and help parents develop their own understanding of the issue.
6. To provide training and support in relation to drug issues for staff and governors.

#### GUIDELINES

1. Drug education is delivered in the main through the P.S.H.E. programme of study and science curriculum which comply with National Curriculum requirements. (see science, PSHE policy)
2. Teaching and learning styles enable children to talk openly about all issues including drugs. School will use a range of styles to provide opportunities for active participation. We recognise the need for sensitivity matching the age and maturity of our pupils.
3. The school cooperates with outside agencies to support and enhance teaching. Advice and support given by outside agencies will be carefully planned to integrate with school's programme. The head teacher and coordinator will approve the use of these agencies.
4. Staff have access to schemes of work and resource material to support learning.

5. The PSHE coordinator has information on available INSET courses. The head teacher will be responsible for approving access to training.
6. Staff are encouraged to behave sensitively when dealing with drug education in the classroom. However, where a child discloses any substance related issues confidentiality cannot be guaranteed to the child.
7. Specific procedures are in place to deal with drug misuse on school premises following LA guidelines. The "Handling incidents of substance use in schools policy" is kept with the drug policy in the policy file in the headteacher's room.
8. The headteacher, Mrs. Lynn Rae, is the designated member of staff for the reporting of all drugs related incidents. The PSHE coordinator, Mrs. Lynn Matthewson, will act in this role if the head is unavailable.

## **INCLUSION**

Activities are differentiated to allow all children to make progress. Every effort is made to present work in such a way that it is equally interesting and accessible to all children no matter what their gender, ethnicity or impairment.

## **CONCLUSION**

By delivering drug education from an early age we hope children will be in a position to make reasoned, mature choices when they come into contact with substances damaging to health and well being.

GOVERNOR SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_