

REDCOURT – ST ANSELM'S



POLICY FOR ANTI-SUBSTANCE ABUSE / DRUGS POLICY

**[Including EYFS, KS1 and KS2, Before and
After School Care]**

Review Date: October 2017

R Jones
July 2016

This policy has been written in consultation with Staff and Governors of Redcourt St. Anselm's School and with due regard to the school's mission statement:

'Growing Together in God's Love'

References

Wirral School Nurse Service
KCSiE, 2015, 2016
Licensing (Occasional Permissions) Act, 1983
DfEs Guidance – Managing Medicines in schools and Early Years Settings – 2005
www.talktofrank.com
DfE and ACPO drug advice for Schools – 2012
Children and Families Act 2014
Misuse of Drugs Act 1971
Government Drug Strategy 2010 'reducing Demand, Restricting Supply, Building Recovery: Supporting People to Live a Drug Free Life'
0-25 SEND Code of Practice 2014
Wirral Local Safeguarding Children's Board Advice
New National Curriculum 2014
Wirral LEA – Life Caravan Service

Please read this policy with reference to:

Reaching Out – Essentials of an Edmund Rice Education
School Mission Statement
Staff Handbook
School Visits Policy
Health and Safety Policy
Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
PHSEE+C Curriculum
PHSEE+C Policy
Medical Care Policy
PHSEE+C Programme of Study
Whole School Behaviour Policy
School Curriculum Policy
First Aid Policy
Staff and parent Communications Policy
Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Policy
Anaphylaxis and Severe Allergy Policy
Children with Specific Medical Conditions Policy
Social Networking Policy
Safer Recruitment Policy
Science Policy
RE Policy
PE Policy
Guidelines for Manager for the Support and Supervision of Teachers Document
ICT Acceptable Use of Facilities and the Internet Policy
E-Safety Policy
ICT Policy
Statement on Suspension, Removal and Expulsion Policy
Disciplinary Procedure Policy

SEN-LDD and Inclusion Policy

Diabetes Policy

Individual Health Care Plans

A Summary of Good Practice for All Staff, Voluntary Workers/Helpers and Students

Safe Disposal of Nappies and Medical Dressings Policy

SEN-LDD, Inclusion and Welfare Confidentiality and Information Sharing Policy

Anti-Violence, Aggressive and Anti-Social Behaviour Policy

Redcourt St Anselm's seeks to promote fundamental British values at every opportunity having due regard for the need to prevent people being drawn into radicalisation and terrorism.

Redcourt St Anselm's considers that within the realms of drug abuse it should also include substance abuse because the age of the children it educates (3 – 11 years) are more likely to be at risk from eating or drinking a broad range of dangerous substances than specifically drugs, nicotine or alcohol.

The aims of this policy are to:

- Clarify the school's approach to substance abuse for staff, pupils, governors, parents or carers, and to clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities;
- Provide guidance for staff on the school's substance abuse education programme;
- Safeguard the health and safety of pupils and staff at Redcourt;
- Enable staff to manage substance abuse related incidents properly.

Definition of 'substances'

The term 'substances' is employed throughout this policy to refer to **all** drugs:

- All **illegal** drugs (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act, 1971);
- All **legal** drugs, including alcohol and tobacco and also volatile substances (those giving off a gas or vapour which can be inhaled);
- All vapours or smoking substitutes;
- All medicines, whether over the counter or on prescription;
- All substances dangerous to health eg cleaning fluids ;
- All new psychoactive substances or 'legal highs'.

Redcourt St Anselm's statement on Substance abuse.

The presence of unauthorised drugs and substances in Redcourt St Anselm's school is not acceptable. The school should be a safe place for all pupils, staff, governors and volunteers to work and the presence of unauthorised drugs and uncontrolled substances represents a threat to the health and safety of all within the school community.

Our purpose is so that we can educate children about the risks of involvement with drugs and to maintain a culture free from the temptation to use drugs and other harmful substances.

The Headteacher will:

- Ensure that staff and parents are informed about this policy;

- Ensure that the policy is implemented effectively;
- Manage any substance abuse related incidents;
- Ensure that staff are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively about drugs and substance abuse, and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity;
- Liaise with external agencies regarding the school drugs education programme
- Monitor the policy on a day-to-day basis and report to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

The Governing Body of Redcourt St Anselm's will:

- Designate a governor with specific responsibility for drugs education. The Link Governor will be the person with specific responsibility for Child Protection and Safeguarding;
- Establish general guidelines on drugs education;
- Support the Headteacher in following these guidelines;
- Inform parents about the drugs education policy
- Liaise with Wirral LEA and health organisations so that the school's policy is in line with the best advice available;
- Support the Headteacher in any case conferences, or in appeals against exclusions.

Drugs education should enable pupils to develop their knowledge, attitudes and understanding about drugs and substances, and to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, relating this to their own and others actions. It should:

- Build upon knowledge and understanding;
- Provide accurate information and clear up misunderstandings;
- Explore attitudes and values and examine the risks and consequences of actions relating to drugs and substance abuse;
- Develop pupils' interpersonal skills, their understanding of rules and laws and their self-awareness and self-esteem;
- Ensure that all children are taught about drugs and substance abuse in a consistent manner, following guidelines that have been agreed by parents, governors and staff.

At Redcourt, drugs and substance education is regarded as a whole school issue and opportunities to teach about the importance of a healthy lifestyle occur naturally throughout the curriculum but especially in Science, PHSEE+C, RE and PE.

Teaching pupils about drugs and substance abuse will begin in EYFS when pupils are taught about seeing the doctor, visiting the chemist/pharmacy and the importance of medicines and their safe handling. This is further developed throughout KS1.

In KS2, pupils will learn that alcohol is the most widely used drug and that its dangers can be overlooked. The pupils will become aware of the risks associated with drinking alcohol. The pupils will be taught that smoking is a minority habit and encourage them to consider its effects and risks. The children will also be taught of the dangers of volatile substances abuse, because of the high risk of accidental death, especially for first-time and occasional abusers.

The school acknowledges that by the time pupils are in Prep 6 (Year 6), some of them may possibly have had some experiences with drugs and substance abuse already, so it is essential that the school helps to equip pupils to handle risky situations, before they actually meet them. Role-play and class discussions will provide an appropriate forum for this.

Redcourt recognises that learning is most effective when it addresses the development of knowledge, attitudes and skills together and when teaching and learning are participative and active. A variety of teaching styles that are characterised by active learning. By finding out what the pupils already know, staff pose dilemmas, the children discuss choices. Wherever possible the information given by staff is visually reinforced. By use of drama, role-play or ICT to demonstrate various strategies and scenarios. By seeking to engage pupils opportunity is given for pupils to talk. Pupils are encouraged to listen to views of others and they are encouraged to explore why drugs and substance abuse is a problem for society.

Redcourt aims to teach all pupils about drugs and substance abuse, however different their attainment levels and however diverse their requirements. The school recognises that pupils with SEN-LDD may be more vulnerable, that different communities have different attitudes towards drug abuse, and that some pupils may have drug abusing parents.

Drugs and substance abuse education takes place during normal lesson time. A class teacher may seek support from the School Nurse Service or another health professional. Lessons that focus upon drugs education form part of a sequence of lessons that are designed to promote a healthy lifestyle.

Drugs at School

Pupils may not bring prescribed medication into school nor are they allowed to administer their medicine without the supervision of the designated staff member.

Parents are required to give any medication that their child may require to the school Welfare Officer or School Secretary, in person. The medicine must be brought to school in a secure container, clearly labelled with the child's name and class and dosage to be administered. A medication at school consent form must be completed and signed by the parent. (Only prescribed medications will be accepted for administration in school.) The designated staff member will administer the medicine according to the medication consent form. Records will be kept of all medication received/given. Emergency medication may be stored securely in the Welfare Room / First Aid Room for eg anaphylaxis or asthma.

Solvents and other hazardous chemical must be stored securely, to prevent inappropriate access, or use by pupils. Teachers are aware of the risks attendant upon having and using: solvent based Tippex, aerosols, glues and white-board cleaning fluids. All hazardous chemicals are managed according to COSHH.

Legal drugs are legitimately in school only when authorised by the Headteacher. Staff who smoke must keep their tobacco and matches or lighters secure. Smoking is strictly prohibited anywhere on the school premises.

No person, whether a pupil or not, under the age of eighteen is allowed to consume alcohol on the premises of Redcourt St Anselm's during any school event. Alcohol to be consumed at community or PTA events will be stored securely beforehand. Where alcohol is available to parents from a bar at events where there are also children there will be a member of staff present. To sell alcohol the school must be licensed under the Licensing (Occasional Permission) Act, 1983. Occasionally, members of staff may consume limited amounts of alcoholic drinks in the Staff Room at recognised events, eg post Annual Staff, Governor Mass reception.

Drugs incidents

An incident involving unauthorised drugs or dangerous substances in school is most likely to involve alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances, or chemical rather than illegal drugs.

The first priority is safety and first aid ie calling the emergency services and placing unconscious people in the recovery position. An intoxicated pupil does not represent a medical emergency, unless unconscious. Medical services must be informed of name/type of substance that has been abused.

Pupils suspected of being intoxicated from inhaling a volatile substance will be kept calm; chasing can place an intolerable strain upon the heart, thus precipitating cardiac arrest or sudden death.

Any drug suspected of being illegal will be confiscated and stored securely, awaiting disposal; these precautions must be witnessed and recorded. Staff should never taste unknown or confiscated substances.

Legal but unauthorised drugs or medicines will also be confiscated, and will be returned to parents; the school may arrange for the safe disposal of volatile substances.

Where a pupil is suspected of concealing an authorised drug, staff are not permitted to carry out a personal search, but may search pupils' bags, trays etc.

The Headteacher will decide if the police need to be called or whether the school will manage the incident internally. A full record will be made of any incident.

The Headteacher will conduct an investigation into the nature and seriousness of any incident, in order to determine an appropriate response.

The Headteacher and Chair of Governors will take responsibility for liaising with the media. As the issue of substance misuse is an emotive one likely to generate interest in the local and national press. The Headteacher will take appropriate advice and guidance from the School Solicitor, ISA, Teaching Union and Trustees to ensure that any reporting of incidents remains in the best interests of the young people, their families and the school.

The role of Parents

Parents hold the primary role in their child's drug and substance abuse education. Redcourt St Anselm's seeks to build a positive and supportive relationship with parents through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation. To promote this the school will:

- Inform parents about the school drugs and substance abuse policy;
- Inform parents of the procedures to follow regarding administration of medications in school
- Answer any questions parents may have about the drugs and substance abuse education their child received in school;
- Take seriously any issue which parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy, or about arrangements for substances abuse education in the school;
- Inform parents about the best practice known with regard to substance abuse education, so that the parents can support the key messages being given to children at school.

When an incident concerning unauthorised drugs has occurred in school, and a pupil is involved, the school will inform the parents and explain how the school intends to respond to the incident.

Staff will be cautious about discharging a pupil to the care of a drug/alcohol intoxicated parent; particularly when the parent intends driving the pupil home. Staff will suggest an alternative arrangement. The focus will be the pupil's welfare and safety. Where the behaviour of a drug/substance intoxicated parent repeatedly places a child at risk or a parent or carer becomes abusive or violent, staff should consider whether the circumstances of the case are serious enough to invoke child protection and safeguarding procedures, and possibly the involvement of the police. The Headteacher as the DSO (Designated Safeguarding Officer) must be informed at once.

The curriculum will be monitored for inclusion of drugs and substance abuse education by Subject Co-ordinators, EYFS/KS Leaders, Curriculum Manager in partnership with the PHSEE+C Curriculum Co-ordinator.

MANAGING DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS

