



# HOLY TRINITY

## Church of England Academy

### Drugs Policy

#### **Mission Statement:**

Holy Trinity CE Academy strives to attain excellence in all aspects of academy life. We endeavour to develop the potential of each individual intellectually, physically, spiritually, socially and emotionally, within a secure, caring community, whose members seek to live by Christian values.

#### **Definition of a Drug:**

A drug is a substance which, when taken into the body, changes the way we perceive things and the way the body works.

This policy covers a range of drugs including medicines, tobacco, alcohol, solvents and illegal drugs.

#### **Rationale:**

Current research indicates that the use of drugs, both legal and illegal, is prevalent in the lives of young people. The school is committed to the health and safety of its staff members and the need to take action to safeguard their well-being. It acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of young people and staff within the Christian ethos of love and support. As an Academy we wish to develop the values, attitudes and skills of our pupils as well as provide them with the information around the use of drugs, in order to promote a healthy lifestyle. Fundamental to the Academy's values and practice is the principle of sharing the responsibility for the education of young people with parents, keeping them informed and involved at all times. Effective communication and co-operation is essential to the successful implementation of this policy.

Holy Trinity C.E. Academy is committed to the health and safety of staff, pupils, volunteers, visitors, parents, guardians and governors and we will work together 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 curriculum of the school, both formal and informal, with particular reference to Science and PSHE & Citizenship and as part of our Healthy Schools Work
- To provide accurate information about a range of 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 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
- To respond to any individual in the school community in need of support

- To enable pupils to identify sources of confidential advice and support, as school staff are unable to guarantee absolute confidentiality in serious cases of drug misuse.

### **Guidelines:**

Pupils at Holy Trinity Academy will follow a cross-curricular drug education programme which is responsive to needs and relevant to their age, experience and maturity. Drug Education is not just about facts but takes into account spiritual, moral, social, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils. It includes accurate information about the law, and the physical and psychological effects of drugs. It will be delivered through the existing curriculum, mainly Science and PSHCE. It will focus on the development of knowledge, skills and attitudes and will emphasise self - esteem and decision making skills. There is a need to use sensitive teaching material, matched to the needs and concerns of young people. Where necessary, staff will consult with Health Care professionals.

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

The Head is responsible for co-ordinating the management of drug-related incidents. Support for dealing with incidents will be sought from outside agencies as appropriate.

### **Procedures**

It is the policy of Holy Trinity Academy, that no child should bring any drug, legal or illegal to school. If a child will need medication during the school day the parent or guardian should notify the school and ask permission for the medication to be brought. This should be taken directly to the school office for safekeeping. Any medication needed by a child while in school must be taken under the supervision of a member of the Administration Team. The Academy will follow the procedures as set out in the Managing Medicines in School Policy

The Academy will take very seriously misuse of any substances such as glue, other solvents, or alcohol. If a child is found to be suffering from the effects of alcohol or other substances, parents will be informed and a referral will be made to Social Services.

It is forbidden for anyone, adult or child, to bring onto the premises illegal drugs. If a child is found to have brought any type of illegal substance, the police and social services will be informed.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

It is the responsibility of the Head teacher/ Leadership Team to oversee and organise the monitoring and evaluation of Drugs Education, in the context of the overall school plans for monitoring the quality of teaching and learning.

### **Conclusion**

The welfare of our pupils and staff is of paramount concern and we will work together with everyone involved with the Academy to ensure the continued education and well-being of all of our children.