

DINNINGTON FIRST SCHOOL

DRUG, ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO POLICY STATEMENT

RATIONALE

Drug education should provide children with opportunities to acquire knowledge and understanding of drugs. At Dinnington First School we wish to help children to distinguish between different drug substances and consider their use, misuse, benefit and harm. We begin to teach children how to take care of themselves from the moment they are born and through a caring, understanding and informed school environment, we will continue to teach them how to keep themselves safe and healthy.

Definition of Drugs:- Any substance which is dangerous or potentially harmful. An illegal drug which is used illicitly including tobacco, alcohol and solvent based products.

Introduction:

Drug use and misuse are becoming increasingly common in our society. Children are part of this society and consequently at Dinnington we recognise the need to deal with the broad range of drug-related situations and incidents which may occur in the lives of our pupils and others involved in the life of the school.

AIMS

- To inform children of the consequences of drug use to enable them to make choices to keep themselves safe and healthy.
- To provide an environment that is safe and healthy for children.
- To present good role models for children.
- To deal effectively with incidents to provide as little disruption as possible to the education of the children.
- To demonstrate that drug use will be dealt with seriously at all levels.
- The children will be informed of the dangers and risks as well as the reasons why some people choose drugs, within the curriculum of the school and as the need arises.
- Dinnington First School has achieved the Gold Smoke Free School Award.

Policies referred to or impacted by this policy

- Confidentiality policy
- Child protection
- Managing Medicines in school
- Code of Conduct
- PSHCE

GUIDELINES

Drug use of any kind is not permitted anywhere on the school site (buildings and grounds) by any person at any time. Drug use is not permitted by anyone on school visits.

- The policy will be made public to staff, visitors, pupils and parents. It will be included in the staff handbook for any new staff.
- No smoking signs are displayed around the school building and grounds in accordance with the No Smoking Legislation.
- The Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher or Drug Education Co-ordinator will report the incidence of illegal drug use to Northumbria Police, Neighbourhood Officers Tel: 101 Ext 62498
- The substance will be stored securely in the substance resource in the school safe

Curriculum:

The Drugs Education Programme will be planned by each class teacher and delivered accordingly through Science and PSHCE following National Curriculum Guidelines. Learning objectives will be in line with Government and OFSTED recommendations.

The Headteacher and Drugs Education Co-ordinator will advise staff when at all possible and enlist additional support and guidance from the LEA Drug Education advisor, currently Sandra Davison.

The Drugs Education Programme will be audited every two years by the Drugs Education Co-ordinator, Head Teacher and parent governor.

Wider Context: The curriculum will include activities appropriate for the National Healthy School Award and aid those supporting National events such as National No Smoking Day or European Drugs Prevention Week.

Liaison structure and procedure within pyramid:

Headteacher will liaise with other Headteachers in Gosforth Schools' Pyramid when appropriate. The Drugs Education Co-ordinator will liaise with other Drugs Education Co-ordinators to secure coverage of whole programme throughout Key Stage 2.

TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Responsibility for providing Training and Resources:

The Headteacher and Drugs Education Co-ordinator will identify training needs and resources needed, usually following an audit. PSHCE coordinator will attend network meetings.

Training may be provided 'in house' or identified staff may attend centrally run INSET and then disseminate to all staff.

The budget for drugs training and resources will be identified and held by the Headteacher.

Governors and newly qualified teachers will be included in training and newly-appointed staff will be introduced to policies. It is important for all staff, including supervisory staff, to be included.

Resources

- These will be monitored by the Drugs Education Co-ordinator and Headteacher.
- They will be reviewed periodically for relevance and suitability.
- The Drugs Education Co-ordinator will usually purchase resources which will be held centrally with Science, PSHE and Citizenship resources.

Staff Needs

- Their knowledge of drugs and issues relating to drugs will be enhanced by training (see earlier) and other sources of information (e.g. resource books, Internet web-sites).
- All staff will be made aware of the boundaries of their responsibility. Should specific support be required, staff should refer to either the Headteacher or Drugs Education Co-ordinator.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

- The drugs teaching programme, resources and training will be monitored and reviewed by the Headteacher, Drugs Education Co-ordinator and parent governor with responsibility for Drugs Education. Class teachers will evaluate their programme of work and modify if required.
- The process will involve meeting between these persons as well as looking at planning and talking with children. For older children, a quiz to assess their knowledge and learning may be devised. Parents would be involved via a questionnaire and PTFA meeting.
- Any recommendations for change would be discussed at a full governors' meeting and implemented as soon as possible afterwards.

Community Publicity and Liaison

- Possible links with Education Welfare Office (E.W.O.), Social Worker and any other agency involved.
- The school is keen to work alongside any positive opportunities for publicity/media.
- If there were adverse media enquiries they would be immediately directed to the Headteacher.

In all cases of illegal or suspected illegal substance use these procedures will be followed:

- Report to teacher / adult who informs Headteacher (who will securely store the substance in the school safe).
- Area is searched.
- Contact Northumbria Police, Neighbourhood Officers Tel: 101 Ext 62498 Substance will be removed from the premises.
- Incident is logged in the Drug Incident Book.
- Inform parent if using or finding is done by a child.
- If disclosure by a child, Headteacher discusses with child.
- Parents can be invited for discussion re disclosure and/or Social Services or other agencies may become involved if the Headteacher thinks this is appropriate.
- Headteacher will inform police if illegal substances are being sold in the vicinity of the school.

In all cases of other substance use (e.g. smoking or alcohol) these procedures will be followed:

- The classteacher and/or Headteacher will be informed.
- The Headteacher will talk to the person(s) concerned.
- If a pupil, parents will be informed and asked to come to school as soon as possible. Parent will accompany the child home if necessary.
- Outside agencies involved if appropriate.
- Incident will be logged.
- Staff informed to heighten awareness.

CONCLUSION

This policy will pay due regard to the needs of children, staff and parents. It will be reviewed within the framework of the School Development Plan.