



Draft Drug Education Policy

January 2005

The policy for Drug Education at xxxxx School forms a part of the overall policy for PSHCE. The Drug Education Policy also forms part of the National Healthy School Standard.

- **Written by**

This policy was written by the PSHCE co-ordinator, with the help of a small working party of teachers, parents and governors and has been approved by the whole school staff, wider school community and the governing body.

Rationale

The governors and staff of xxxxx School, in accordance with Drugs: Guidance For Schools (DfEE 0092/2004) consider open, accurate and informative drugs education to be the entitlement of all pupils.

The purpose of the drugs education policy is

- to determine the needs of pupils regarding drugs education in order to be able to prepare pupils for coming into contact with drugs and giving them the chance to make informed decisions

- to establish procedures for staff and pupils when responding to drug related incidents
- to give guidelines to inform parents of protocols
- to work in partnership with parents, governors, pupils and outside agencies to provide a consistent approach to the teaching of drug education, ensuring an age/experience appropriate programme of work, taking account of a range of cultural and social values.
- to provide clear guidelines and support to staff regarding drugs education and its delivery
- to ensure the school is developing a scheme of work to meet the legal requirements of the National Curriculum Science Orders, the 1996 Education Act (section 351)

Aims

The aims of drug education are

- to provide pupils with the opportunities to acquire knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes to make informed choices and decisions about their own drug use
- to complement the positive school ethos which helps pupils feel valued as part of the community and into so doing foster positive self-esteem which may help pupils cope better in situations involving drugs
- to equip pupils with the skills to deal with drug related incidents that they may encounter
- to provide pupils with clear guidelines for drug related incidents in school

Curriculum organisation

Drug education is organised through a combination of approaches-the taught curriculum, particularly PSHCE and Science as well as other opportunities to reinforce learning from contributions by external agencies such as school nurse, community police and theatre in education groups. Specialist drug education agencies are also used to support the teaching of drug education.

Children will be provided with information that is relevant and appropriate to their age, development and experience and that clearly explains risk without exaggeration.

Teaching and Learning

Drug education is delivered within a safe, secure and supportive learning environment.

Drug education is taught using a variety of approaches especially interactive and participatory teaching methods. Individual, small group and whole class work will be used where applicable.

The programme of work will be enhanced through the inclusion of pupil's experiences and incidences in daily life.

Resources

Resource packs of material such as books, videos, pamphlets and artefacts on PSHCE and SRE will be available to each year group and will be kept centrally in the Drama Hall. In addition, d-side and other outside agencies loan resources to schools

Responsibility, management and co-ordination

This area of work will be identified on the school development plan and reviewed accordingly.

There are named people who administer first aid in the school. They are constantly renewing their qualifications. Staff on duty will administer to cuts and bruises, within normal safety procedures.

A named teacher is responsible for ensuring all procedures are in place for responding appropriately to confidential issues, including child protection.

The co-ordinator will be responsible for supporting the staff in the implementation of the policy and scheme of work. Any INSET needs will be monitored, and teachers will attend training where applicable and available.

Monitoring and evaluation

The co-ordinator is responsible for the overall monitoring of drug education. This can include lesson observations with feedback to teachers, looking at samples of pupils work and providing evidence through the PSHCE portfolio

This will be carried out through discussion and work sampling.

Assessment will be carried out to inform staff of pupil gains in knowledge and understanding, changes in attitudes and the development of skills.

The response to drug related incidents will be monitored by the head teacher and governors.

Responding to drug related incidents

The health and safety of the pupil should be paramount in response to all incidents. Emergency services will be contacted immediately.

The following procedures will take place as and when required:

- any concerns of the staff or other pupils will be referred to a member of the senior management team
- all major incidents will be recorded on a confidential action sheet
- parent / carer will be contacted as appropriate in the context of Child Protection .
- Staff are not to touch any drug related equipment found on the school site. Disposal services will be contacted immediately in order to ensure safe removal
- illegal substances and drug paraphernalia will be handed to the police. The extent of their involvement will depend upon the individual circumstances of each case.
- other support agencies will be involved as appropriate
- any questioning of the pupil and subsequent action must take place with two members of staff, including a senior manager
- any search of the pupil or their belongings must be agreed to by the pupil
- a body search cannot be carried out by members of staff
- legal substances brought into school will be removed, the incident recorded and parents contacted immediately
- first aid procedures will apply in an emergency
- if a parent/ carer appears unable to look after a

- pupil due to the influence of drugs, Child Protection procedures will be followed
- issues should be dealt with sensitively and in a non judgmental manner

Alcohol and tobacco policy

Smoking is not allowed within the school building or playground area. Smoking is allowed in a designated area outside the building, out of sight of the pupils. Parents are requested not to smoke on the premises. Alcohol is not consumed on the premises except for special occasions.

Staff guidelines for the use of tobacco and alcohol on the premises are in the staff handbook

Aerosols

Pupils are not allowed to bring any aerosols into the building. They must not take aerosols on school journey.

Confidentiality

An environment of support will be provided for all pupils in our school to discuss drug related issues. Teachers cannot and should not promise total confidentiality as it may contravene the requirements of the Children Act 1989 .The boundaries of confidentiality should be made clear to pupils. If a child's safety is under threat it may be necessary to start child protection procedures. The pupil should

be informed and it should be explained why this needs to happen.

MEDICINES IN SCHOOLS – as a separate policy