



But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded ~ 2 Chronicles 15:7

Drugs Education Policy



**Weston St Mary
CE Primary School**

Reviewed by:	Date:	Changes made:
LB	March 2021	New Policy

Schools serving their communities through excellence,
exploration and encouragement within the love of God

I can do all things through him who strengthens me ~ Philippians 4:13

Drugs Education Policy

Rationale

The school is committed to the health and safety of its members and will take action to safeguard their well being.

This policy applies to all staff, pupils, parents/carers, governors and partner agencies working with schools.

Requirements of the Policy

All schools are required to have a drug education programme as part of their PSHE provision and also a policy describing how they will respond to drug related incidents.

Aims of the Policy

The aim of this Drugs Education Policy is to acknowledge and clarify the school's role in drug prevention and drug education and ensure it is appropriate to pupils' needs. The policy will provide information about procedures in response to any drug-related incident and provide guidance to teachers, support staff and outside visitors.

A drugs education policy ensures that schools take a whole school approach on the issue of drugs as part of the commitment to being a healthy school. Teachers need to be confident and skilled to teach drug education and pupils, who are concerned about drugs, need to be supported.

The policy aims to have clear procedures for responding to drug-related incidents. Sanctions for incidents will be consistent with the school's discipline policy.

Definition

Drugs are those that are legal, such as alcohol, tobacco and solvents, over the counter and prescribed drugs and illegal drugs such as cannabis, ecstasy, heroin, crack/cocaine and LSD.

The school believes that the possession and use of drugs in school or during the school day is inappropriate. All the drugs covered in this policy are not permitted to be bought, sold, or otherwise obtained on school premises or during the school day, including when pupils are on school visits. These rules apply to adults working at and for the school. Exceptions will be made for adults and pupils who need to take prescribed medicines where appropriate.

Teaching Drugs Education

The school provides drugs education as part of the PSHE Programme of Study and appropriate to our children's needs.

Drugs education:

- enables pupils to make healthy, informed choices by increasing their knowledge and exploring their own and other people's attitudes.
- promotes positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles
- provides accurate information about substances
- increases understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse
- encourages an understanding for those experiencing or likely to experience substance use
- widens their understanding about related health and social issues, e.g. crime effects of different drugs (legal and illegal).
- seeks to minimise the risks that users and potential users face
- enables young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support.

Foundation stage -Early learning goals

- To know ways to keep healthy and safe.

Key Stage One

Children will be taught:

- that taking exercise and eating the right types of and amounts of food help humans keep healthy
- about the role of drugs as medicines
- know substances can be harmful if not properly used
- know safety rules about medicines, tablets, solvents and household substances.
- Know some people need medicines to live a healthy life.

Key Stage Two

Children will be

taught:

- that medicines are drugs but not all drugs are medicines and the important role of medicines and their effects
- about the effects on the human body of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, and how these relate to their personal health
- about the importance of exercise for good health
- how to make simple choices and exercise some basic techniques for resisting pressure from friends and others.

Teachers are responsible for delivering drugs related education, together with support from outside agencies in PSHE lessons, science lessons, circle time and through cross curricular links.

The Head teacher takes overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation and will ensure that all staff dealing with substance issues are adequately supported and trained. The governing body will be involved in substance education and substance related incidents in the same manner as any other matter concerning the direction of the school

Management of Drugs in school

Any use of illegal or unauthorized drugs including tobacco are not acceptable at any time within the boundary of the school and other situations where staff are supervising children e.g. school trips and residential visits.

Prescribed medicines for pupils who need them are kept in the school office or in the fridge in the staff room. They are taken with the class teacher for offsite activities. (see Administration of medicines policy)

Long Sutton CE School has a no smoking policy. Smoking is not allowed on the school premises at any time. This policy applies to all temporary or permanent staff including supply teachers. This policy applies to all visitors to the school.

Management of substance misuse issues.

If a teacher is concerned a pupil is at risk from drugs misuse they must speak to the head teacher. If there are concerns about the safety of the child or if there is a clear child protection issue the head teacher as the DSL needs to be informed. If a pupil discloses information about drug misuse it is important to listen, not guarantee confidentiality and report this to the DSL.

When instances involving substance misuse or the supply of substances on the premises occur, the pupil's parents will be informed at the earliest opportunity by the Head teacher, unless it is linked to an abuse case. The school and parents can then work together to support the young person involved. All incidents will be logged.

If a child is suspected of having on their person illegal or unauthorized drugs then they will be asked to produce them so that they can be stored securely. This will be done in the presence of a witness. If a substance is found the incident will be recorded with the date and time of retrieval, size and appearance of the substance, names of those concerned and the action taken.

If there is sufficient evidence to suggest that a search on school premises is required then that will occur by the head teacher in the presence of a witness. Staff will not search children or their belongings. If it is necessary to carry out a search a police officer will be required who will only carry out a search if there are reasonable grounds to suspect the pupil is in possession of an illegal substance.

Drug paraphernalia and suspected illegal or unauthorized drugs will be handled with great care, following HHC health and safety guidelines. These will be stored securely as evidence and for safe disposal. Parents of the child will be informed.

If a young person admits to using or supplying substances off the premises, the teacher who it is disclosed to has a duty to inform the Head teacher.

If drugs are found on the school site the police will be informed. A school cannot knowingly allow its premises to be used for the production or supply of any controlled drug, or the

preparation or smoking of any illegal drug. Where it is suspected that substances are continuing to be sold on the premises, details regarding those involved and as much information regarding the incident as possible, will be passed to the Police.

In the event of an adult being under the influence of legal or illegal drugs on site or with the intent to supply them then the police will be notified if necessary. **The safety of the children must come first.** They will be directed towards support and advice.

The governing body will be involved in drug education and drug-related incidents in the same manner as any other matter concerning the direction of the school.

The school will consider each substance incident individually and recognise that a variety of responses will be necessary to deal with incidents. The school will consider very carefully the implications of any action it may take. It seeks to balance the interests of the pupil involved, the other school members and the local community. Permanent exclusion may be warranted as a final sanction when all other reasonable steps have been taken.

Regarding the welfare of staff, the school will follow the LEA Policy on drug and alcohol misuse as part of its health and safety policy, which is designed to reduce to a minimum the possible effects of substance misuse on the user, other employees and the environment.

The Head teacher will take responsibility for liaison with the media, if this arises. On these occasions the school will take appropriate advice and guidance from the LEA press office and legal department to ensure that any reporting of incidents remains in the best interests of the young people, their families and the school.

Where LEA-maintained schools are concerned, the LEA should be informed as soon as possible. This may be done via the LEA adviser for drugs education, or the school support officer.

Dissemination of the policy

The policy will be disseminated to staff and governors following the review. A copy is located in the school's policy file in the office.

The policy will be shared with new staff on induction.

Please also refer to the following policies

Health and Safety, Child protection, Behaviour policy, Administration of medicines policy

Review Date: March 2023

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