

DRUGS and SUBSTANCE MISUSE POLICY

Chacewater School

The aim of this policy is:

1. Give pupils the facts about drugs and substances, whether legal, illegal or medicinal.
2. Emphasise the benefits of a healthy and safe lifestyle.
3. To give young people the knowledge and skills to make informed and responsible choices now and in later life.
4. Clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities of the school
5. To enable all staff to manage drugs on school premises, and any incidents that occur, with confidence and consistency, and in the best interests of those involved

This policy has been written in accordance with local and government guidance, taking account of the views, needs and feelings of all members of the school community. It is readily available as a reference source in school, on the school website and learning platform and will be reviewed in accordance with the school monitoring cycle. It applies to all staff, pupils, parents/carers, governors and partner agencies working with the school.

DEFINITION

Drugs are substances which people take to change the way they feel, think or behave. They may include:-

- Legal drugs e.g. alcohol and tobacco.
- Illegal drugs e.g. heroin, crack cocaine, LSD and ecstasy.
- Over the counter and prescription medicines.
- Other drugs/substances e.g. anabolic steroids, solvents, ketamine.

LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

This policy links to the PSHE and Citizenship Policy, policies for Health and Safety, Behaviour, Safeguarding Children, Equal Opportunities and the school's Drug Incident Guidelines.

WHAT IS TAUGHT

Drug Education at Chacewater Primary School aims to:

- promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society
- prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. It is our aim to provide opportunities for students to develop their **knowledge, skills, attitudes** and understanding about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, relating this

to their own and others' actions.

Foundation and Key Stage 1 focus on medicines and how to be safe, being ill and getting better, being safe with household substances and the risks of misuse.

Key stage 2 focuses on the effects and risks of smoking and drinking alcohol, resisting pressure to engage in these activities and making safe decisions.

WHERE IT IS TAUGHT IN THE CURRICULUM

Drugs Education is taught mainly through PSHE and Citizenship and through relevant topics in the Science Curriculum. Drugs Education may also be delivered through cross curricular opportunities and through Circle Time as the need arises.

HOW IT IS TAUGHT

Drug education is taught and learnt within a safe, secure and supportive learning environment usually with the class teacher but may involve the School Health Team, Local Drug Advisory Agencies, the Police or the Local Authority Healthy Schools Coordinator.

Ground rules are set out and pupil's privacy is respected. A variety of active learning approaches are used including ICT, group discussions, whole class discussions as part of circle time, creative writing, role play and other activities used by teachers.

A wide range of active teaching methods are used that enable pupils to learn skills, discuss their views, explore their own and other's attitudes and values and to learn how to deal with drug related situations.

ASSESSMENT, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Assessment of pupil's progress in drugs education is measured as part of PSHE and Citizenship and Science assessment. Pupil's skills knowledge and attitudes are assessed and monitored through a range of methods, including lesson observations, examining pupil's work. The quality of the drugs education programme is monitored and evaluated also by lesson observation, examination of pupil's work and by the annotation of the PSHE and Citizenship scheme of work.

STAFF TRAINING AND SUPPORT

The Local Authority provides training opportunities in PSHE, Coordinator meetings to update information re: - Healthy Schools and any new Government guidelines. An accredited course is also offered in PSHE for any teacher in the Local Authority.

STATUTORY DUTY OF THE SCHOOL

The head teacher takes overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation, for liaison with the governing body, parents, LA and appropriate outside agencies.

The head teacher will ensure that all staff dealing with substance issues are adequately supported and trained.

MANAGEMENT OF DRUGS IN SCHOOL

The school does not permit the possession, use or supply of any illegal or legal drug (unless authorised legal drugs) which takes place within the school premises and grounds. This also applies to school visits, journeys or residential trips.

a) Hazardous Chemicals and Volatile Substances

- Arrangements for the secure and safe storage of chemicals e.g. for cleaning are set out in the school's Health and Safety Policy in line with COSHH regulations.

b) Alcohol

- There are occasions when the consumption of alcohol is authorised at social events. Staff who accompany pupils on school trips or visits are not permitted to drink alcohol when responsible for pupils.

c) Smoking

- This is a no smoking school and no smoking will be permitted by any person on the school premises at any time.

2) MANAGEMENT OF UNAUTHORISED DRUGS

In incidents involving substance misuse or supply on the premises/during the school day, and following discussion with the pupil and staff, the school has adopted the procedures as laid out in *Drugs: guidance for schools* (Reference: DfES/0092/2004)

The procedure is as follows:

Parents/Carers will be contacted immediately if they are /their child is involved in a drug related incident.

- In cases of substance use/misuse or supply on the premises, during the school day or during school visits etc, the case will be discussed with the young person and a written record taken ; parents/carers will be informed by the head teacher as soon as possible. The support of outside agencies will be sought if appropriate
- If a young person admits to using or supplying substances off the premises, the appropriate action will be taken by the head teacher, who will inform the parents/carers

- While there is no legal obligation to inform the police, they may also be involved at the discretion of the head teacher in consultation with governors and staff who know the young person well
- The school will consider each incident individually and will employ a range of responses to deal with each incident. The governing body will be involved in drug-related incidents as they are concerning other matters relating to the school.
- The head teacher will take responsibility for liaison with the media, where required. Additional support and advice is available from the School Drugs Adviser at the Local Education Authority.
- In the event of a parent being under the influence of alcohol or drugs when collecting a child, and the child's welfare is deemed in jeopardy, another member of the family will be contacted and/or the appropriate authorities.