



DRUGS POLICY

Policy Date:	January 2018	Version:		
Policy Review Date:	January 2020	Rebecca Dulieu (Headteacher)		
			Signature	Date
Ratified by Governing Body:				
Name: Raj Gill-Harrison			Signature	Date

Drugs Policy

1. Statement of Values

St. Mary's Fields Primary School believes that a healthy lifestyle should be the entitlement of everyone in the school community, students and staff. We are committed to the health and welfare of all our students in a safe environment. We acknowledge our shared responsibility with parents and the community for making sure that we play our part in meeting national and local concerns in relation to drug education and substance misuse. To that end:-

- St. Mary's Fields Primary School will promote the health and safety of all who work in the school community through the curriculum it offers and the day to day procedures governing the conduct of the school.
- St. Mary's Fields Primary School is committed to supporting the welfare of the students in its care through its formal and informal pastoral structures. We will encourage young people in their confidence to use these structures when they are in need of support. The best interests of the individual as well as the needs of the whole school community will always be taken into account.
- We believe that health education has an important place within the P.S.E. programme of the school and that every student has an entitlement to participate in and benefit from health education opportunities.
- St. Mary's Fields Primary School does not condone the misuse of legal drugs nor the use of illegal substances by members of the school, nor the illegal supply of them and we shall take appropriate steps to deal with any such incidences which may occur.
- St. Mary's Fields Primary School believes in the importance of the partnership with parents, with the local community and with the various specialist agencies (statutory and voluntary) in the matter of promoting a healthy lifestyle. It is our policy to ensure that effective and appropriate communication is an essential part of the procedures we adopt for managing the drugs education programme in this school and for dealing with any drugs related incident.
- We will provide a smoke free environment at all times and at school functions.

2. Educational Aims and Objectives

The school's drug education programme is part of a whole school and cross-phase approach to the health education of students. The overall aim is to give students the knowledge, understanding and skills to make informed choices about their health and the use and misuse of drugs, both now and later in life, and to emphasise the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

Specific aims of the Drug Education Policy are:

To promote and develop positive attitudes and behaviour towards good health

To enable pupils to make healthy informed choices

To seek to reduce risks to young people and reduce harm and encourage a healthy respect for all substances taken into the body

To help pupils develop decision-making skills which will assist them in dealing with problems and pressures

To develop skills to enable pupils to live and cope in a drug orientated society

To promote a no smoking lifestyle amongst pupils

To develop responsibility towards themselves and each other

To provide accurate information about substances and to increase understanding about the effects of their use and misuse

To widen understanding about related health issues

To define how and what will be taught by whom

To detail how drug related incidents will be handled

To identify how pupil support will be provided

To define how training and support will be provided to staff

To determine what the involvement of other agencies will be

To determine what the involvement of parents will be

The School's Drug Education Programme - Organisation, Content and Methodology

The school's Drug Education Programme is co-ordinated by the Headteacher and a Governor from the Health and Safety Committee

The content of our drugs education programme will be consistent with what is recommended through the National Curriculum standing orders;

It will be subject to regular review and evaluation;

It will be supported by informed advice from sources outside school;

Active student participation will be encouraged;

The Drugs Education Programme is taught by all class teachers

As with other aspects of the school's health education programme a variety of teaching styles (including discussion and role play) and a variety of teaching materials used. Outside speakers are used as and when appropriate

The programme has been devised to meet the requirements of the national curriculum and the aims of the school's drug education policy and will focus on developing the knowledge, attitude and skills that a person needs to make informed decisions concerning their life.

Staff Training

The school's Drug/Health Education Co-ordinator is responsible for assessing the training needs of staff in relation to drug education and the school's drug education policy and for arranging an appropriate training programme. The Governing Body and the Headteacher will allocate appropriate funds to support Drug Education as part of the school's overall training programme.

Review and Evaluation of the Policy

The policy will be reviewed and evaluated within the School Improvement Plan cycle.

Dealing with Drugs Related Incidents

St. Mary's Fields Primary School opposes the misuse of legal drugs and the use of illegal substances by members of the school, and the illegal supply of them and we shall take appropriate steps to deal with any such incidences which may occur.

The welfare and best interests of the young person will always be taken into account and balanced against the needs of the whole school community in dealing with any drugs related incident. St. Mary's Fields Primary School believes that in cases of misuse of substances, it is the behaviour, not the person, which should be seen as unacceptable.

Procedures

The school can experience a variety of drug related incidents including:

- Children asking questions about drugs in class.
- Children talking about their use of drugs.
- Children or Staff finding drug paraphernalia on the school premises
- Children bringing drugs into school
- Use of drugs by children on the school premises

Information of children or their parents, siblings or parents using drugs.

Where a member of staff encounters one of these or any other drug related incident their action should be guided by the following:

1. Remember that staff who are looking after children under the age of 8 years are assumed to be acting in “loco parentis” and therefore have a duty to act as a responsible and wise parent.
2. In any situation the well being of the children is of the paramount importance. Administer any (emergency) first aid that is necessary. Keep any evidence that may assist in identifying substances that may have been consumed (including vomit) and ensure this evidence is made available to health professionals or accompanies the student to hospital.
3. Remove any dangerous substances or items.
4. If a pupil/pupils are found in possession of substances suspected of being a controlled drug, the member of staff should remove the substance and in the presence of a witness, lock it away.
5. Gather any evidence that is readily available or which may not be available later.
6. Make a brief written record of what happened.
7. Report the incident as soon as practically possible to the headteacher and, if requested, complete part A of Drug Related Incident form. The form is part of a management procedure. It need not in all circumstances form part of the pupil record. A judgment needs to be made according to the individual merits of each case. This information is then recorded on CPOMS (Child Protection Online Monitoring System) and where appropriate a referral to social services Duty and Assessment service.

The headteacher will determine what further action needs to be taken, including:

- whether to interview pupils
- gather further evidence
- inform the parents
- inform the LA
- inform the police

Each case will be assessed on its own particular circumstances. The headteacher will, if she feels further action may be necessary, complete part B of the Drug Related Incident form. An action plan may be drawn up in consultation with the pupil, his/her parents and any appropriate outside support agency, aimed at making available the necessary help (e.g. counselling, medical help, education, discipline).

Exclusion or sanctions may be necessary. Consideration will be given to the likely consequence for the individual(s) concerned and his/her welfare, balanced against the needs of the whole school community.

The police will always be told if illegal drugs or substances are being sold in school.

Refer any inquiries from parents, outside agencies and the media to the headteacher.

DIRECTORY OF SOURCES OF SUPPORT

1. The Education Welfare Officer *Name;* Sadie Cadney
Tel No: 0116 4545514

2. The Police:
 (a) The Drugs Squad Tel.no.0116 253 0066
 (b) Community Unit - Youth
 Involvement Officer Tel.no.0116 253 0066

3. School Medical Officer
 Duty Medical Officer Tel no. 0116 2559700
 Tel no. 0116 2559700

4. Drug Advice Centre Tel no. 0116 247 0200

5. Alcohol Advice Centre Tel no. 0116 255 2212

6. Leicester Action for Youth Trust Tel No.0116 255 3918

7. National Drugs Helpline Tel no 0800 776600

8. Drugs in Schools Helpline Tel no 0345 366666

9. LA Advisory Paul Conneally
 Tel no 07729462864

10. Health Promotion Karen House
 Tel no. 0116 588878

ST MARY'S FIELDSPRIMARY SCHOOL
DRUG RELATED INCIDENT FORM

PART A. (To be completed by member of staff discovering, witnessing or being directly involved in a drug related incident)

Date of Incident:_____ Time of Incident: _____

Location of Incident._____

Person(s) Involved:

Brief Description of Evidence:

Evidence of Drug Abuse (to include assessment of reliability of evidence):

Action taken:

Name: _____Signature: _____

Date: _____

PART B HEADTEACHER'S REPORT

Assessment of evidence so far available.

What further evidence could be collected? How?

What school rule(s) broken?

What laws were broken?

What was the nature of the drug use?

What factors led to the drug being used?

Does the student(s) concerned have emotional or social problems?

What problems could the drug use cause the student's:

health

school work

home/social life?

What problem could the student's drug use cause the school?

Possible Courses of Action - a management checklist

	PROS	CONS
Gather Further Evidence		
Deal with informally		
Discuss with student		
Arrange Support/Education Package		
Inform Student's Parents		
How? Likely re-action?		
Inform LA		
Inform Police		
Inform staff and other students		
Take Sanctions Against Student		
Inform Governors		
Prepare Press release		
Inform all Parents/Public		
Action Plan		

Headteacher's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Outcome:

This will be achieved for **Key Stage 1** students by **increasing their knowledge and understanding** of:

1. the school's rules relating to medicine.
2. proving basic information about how the body works and ways of looking after the body.
3. the role medicines play (both prescribed and over the counter) in promoting health and reasons people use them.
4. that all drugs can be harmful if not used properly.
5. simple safety rules about medicines and other substances used in the home including solvents.
6. the general effects of alcohol and tobacco on the body and on behaviour.
7. people who are involved with medicines (e.g. health professionals, pharmacists, shop keepers).
8. People who can help children when they have questions or concerns

by **increasing their skills** in:

1. communicating feelings such as concern about illness and taking medicines;
2. following simple safety instructions;
3. knowing when and how to get help from adults;

by enabling them to **develop attitudes**:

1. which value their own body and recognise its uniqueness value their own bodies
2. towards medicines, health professionals and hospitals;
3. towards the use of alcohol and cigarettes ;
4. and consider their responses to media and advertising presentations of medicines, alcohol and smoking;

For **Keystage 2** this will be achieved by increasing **knowledge and understanding** of

1. School rules relating to medicines, alcohol, tobacco, solvents and illegal drugs;
2. More detailed information about the body, how it works and how to take care of it;
3. Different types of medicines (both prescribed and over the counter), legal and illegal drugs including their form, their effects and their associated risks;

4. Introduction to the law relating to the use of legal and illegal drugs;
5. People who can help children when they have questions or concerns
6. Dangers from handling discarded syringes and needles;

and by developing **skills for**

1. Identifying risks
2. Coping with peer influences
3. Communicating with adults
4. Decision making and assertiveness in situations relating to drug use;
5. Giving and getting help;
6. Safety procedures when using medicines.

and by helping promote **attitudes** towards

1. Valuing oneself and other people;
2. Different drugs and people who use or misuse them;
3. The media and advertising of alcohol, tobacco and other legal drugs;
4. Taking responsibility for one's own safety and behaviour.

What is a drug?

The word 'drug' covers anything taken into the body to change it in some way. It includes medicines, alcohol and tobacco, as well as illegal drugs such as heroin or cannabis.

Some drugs have only a physical effect on the body, such as relieving pain or fighting infection.

Others have a psychological effect as well, in that they affect the mind or emotions.

Many drugs which are used medically for their physical effects also have psychological ones.

Some substances whose main use is not for their effect on the body, such as the solvents in glues, can also be used like drugs.

Sometimes the word 'substance' is used to mean drugs and other substances which can be used like them. This can be confusing, since there are so many more substances which are not drugs and have no drug-like effects

Drugs familiar to Primary School Children

Medicines: a wide variety of drugs used to treat illnesses; prescribed by a doctor or bought 'over the counter' (without prescription) from pharmacies and other shops.

Caffeine: found in tea, coffee, chocolate and some soft drinks, including those marketed for young children. Giving it up can cause withdrawal symptoms such as irritability and headaches.

Alcohol: on sale in many outlets in the community and widely advertised. Used socially, especially at celebrations such as birthdays, family meals and weddings.

Tobacco (usually in the form of cigarettes; contains nicotine): used socially in the home or the community; brought to children's attention through advertisements and for sale in shops.

Cannabis: usually smoked with tobacco. Young children may be offered cannabis by older friends.

Solvents: this term is used to cover everyday substances used in the home, garage, shed or at school, including the solvents in glues and dry cleaning fluids, as well as similar volatile substances such as aerosol propellants and lighter fluids.

Berries, plants and fungi: many berries, plants or fungi which children may find growing have a psychological or physiological effect and some can be very harmful if eaten, or even handled.

Drugs and the Law

Alcohol

- Intoxicating. that is, alcoholic, liquor may not be given to any child under five except under medical supervision.
- Under fourteen year olds are not allowed in the bar of licensed premises.
- No alcohol can be sold or delivered to a person under 18.

Tobacco

- It is illegal to sell tobacco products to anyone under the age of sixteen.
- It is also illegal to sell single cigarettes.

It is illegal to share prescribed drugs with another person

Solvents and other volatile substances

- Possession of solvents and sniffing are not offences. The police can only intervene if a criminal act is likely to follow.
- It is an offence to supply a person under eighteen with a solvent-based substance if you believe it will be used for intoxication.

Heroin , cannabis, crack, LSD, cocaine and ecstasy, as well as other drugs, such as amphetamines, which are legal if prescribed as medicines, are covered by the Misuse of Drugs Act. It is illegal to possess, grow, sell or supply them.

It is an offence for an occupier or manager to knowingly permit cannabis to be used or supplied on their premises.

You can take a substance away from a person in order to prevent them committing an offence. Then you should inform the police and hand over the substance or destroy it, if possible in front of a witness.

Why drug education is important.

Children need help to equip themselves with the skills to deal with a drug orientated society. The development of self esteem is a major part of drug education and helps them to maintain a healthy attitude towards drugs.

Primary school drug education provides a forum for pupils to learn about drugs and build foundations for a healthy lifestyle.

Children form attitudes about drug use from an early age by watching adults smoking, drinking and taking medicines.

Alcohol and nicotine are still the most widely available and abused drugs; they cause much physical and social harm. They are also the drugs that children are most likely to experiment with.

Drugs are an important part of modern life; many people need drugs to improve the quality of their lives and to eliminate disease and pain.

Drug education is a vehicle for addressing myths and misconceptions concerning drugs and drug taking.

Television, films and advertising often convey a sophisticated, exciting image of inappropriate recreational drug use.

The illicit drug trade continues to grow; the misuse of drugs has become a serious problem in many countries.

Volatile substances are used by young children more than other drugs and can be very dangerous.

Drug education is part of the Science National Curriculum at Key Stages 1 and 2 (see Content of primary school drug education).

OFSTED will monitor schools' policies for drug education and drug related incidents as part of their regular inspections.