



POLICY FOR DRUG EDUCATION

**Introduction**

Policy to be Ratified: June 2017

Policy Review Date: May 2019

Safeguarding Lead: Robin Archibald

Safeguarding Deputy: Loretta Negri

This policy is accessible to:

- all staff (permanent, temporary, supply or otherwise)
- advisers/inspectors
- parents (on request)
- Broadfields Primary School Governors.

All staff have access to a copy saved on the school website.

The policy can also be found in the master policy file in the Head's room.

## Broadfields Primary School POLICY FOR DRUGS EDUCATION

### General Statement

This policy has been written under the guidance of School Governors and the Head Teacher. The PSHE coordinator has sought advice from the Local Authority and the policy has been written in reference to the 'Drugs – Guidance for Schools' DfES 0092/2004 document.

At Broadfields School we are committed to our role in enabling children to make responsible and healthy decisions. We aim to provide Drug Education which covers personal, health and social issues and supports pupils' diverse experiences. The world of drugs is complex for children to understand, drugs are used for many good purposes but also misused and abused and they are used within social and medical contexts. We believe that it is important for children to develop knowledge and understanding about the use and misuse of drugs before they reach an age at which they may come into contact with drugs.

### Definition of a Drug

A drug is defined as being a psychotropic substance that alters the way the mind or body works; this may be physically, mentally or emotionally. This includes:

- All legal drugs (including alcohol, tobacco and caffeine)
- All illegal drugs
- Volatile substances (glue, lighter fuel)
- Medicines on prescription
- Medicines sold over the counter

### Aims

To provide pupils with appropriate knowledge to enable them to make healthy and informed choices

To use content and methodology appropriate to the needs and maturities of pupils including those with Special Education Needs

To involve the whole school community; staff, governors, parents/carers, pupils and relevant outside agencies/speakers

To provide a planned programme of drugs education which makes links across the curriculum

To challenge attitudes and promote equal opportunities

### Objectives

To provide children with:

- Understanding of how to be safe with drugs and medicines
- Knowledge and understanding of the consequences of drug use and misuse
- An opportunity to explore personal attitudes, values, experiences and feelings
- Skills and attitudes, knowledge and understanding to make their own informed, competent decisions about drug use and misuse
- Life skills, such as effective communication, recognising personal qualities and skills in oneself and others, assertiveness, responsibility for oneself and the community, self-esteem, forming and expressing their own opinions and maintaining effective and fulfilling relationships.

### Guidelines

We will use a range of strategies;

- Explanations and clarification
- Role-play, discussion and feedback
- Group work
- Structured games
- Visual aids
- Active learning techniques

Appropriate use of outside speakers

### Equal Opportunities

The drug education programme will reflect the school's ethos and demonstrate and encourage the following values:

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- Respect for self
- Respect for others
- Responsibility for their own action
- Responsibility for their family, friends, school and wider community

### **Special Educational Needs:**

Appropriate provision and support is made to enable all pupils to access the curriculum. Drugs education is differentiated to match individual needs, experiences, maturity and age of pupils

### **Monitoring**

The Learning Mentor will assist the Head Teacher in dealing with drug related incidents. The PSHE coordinator will monitor planning and delivery of drugs education in line with the whole school monitoring system.

Throughout the drug related programme, teachers will monitor, record and assess each child's progress according to the following criteria:

- Understanding and knowledge that is acquired
- Attitudes, ideas and values explored

Staff will regularly review the programme that is being delivered.

### **Drug related incidents**

The following situations would constitute a drug-related incident:

Emergencies – when a pupil has lost consciousness

Intoxication – being intoxicated/'high' when it is difficult to communicate with the person

Discovery/observation: where a young person is discovered using, holding, supplying, offering to supply a substance not permitted on the school premises

Disclosure – where a person discloses to a member of staff that he/she has been using drugs, or they are concerned about someone else's drug use (friend, parent, sibling)

### **Procedures**

- Medicines: the school will need to be kept informed in writing of any medicines that a pupil may need during the school day or on the premises
- School Trips: the pupils are the responsibility of the school whilst they are attending an event or on a residential trip. Any young person involved in a drug related incident whilst attending such an event will be dealt with according to the school behaviour policy. Any medicines taken on a trip must be labelled clearly with the child's name and the frequency at which the medicine must be taken
- Confidentiality: young people wishing to disclose drug use by themselves or others will be informed that staff cannot treat the information confidentially but they will deal with it sensitively
- Disclosure: the main purpose of drug education is to explore young people's attitudes and values. Everyone should have the opportunity to share their opinions and have them valued.

### **Records/Action**

All drug related incidents will be recorded on the school incident/concern sheet. These will be kept securely and only shared with key people with the consent of the Head Teacher and Learning Mentor. The Head Teacher will deal with incidents that occur on school premises. This may involve contacting Social Services, Barnet Local Authority or other appropriate agencies as advised.



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Actions/sanctions will be appropriately applied to any drug related incident in school. There may not be an automatic sanction applied, any response will be taken after considering all the facts about a young person and their emotions and circumstances in which any drug related incident may have come about.

Actions may be taken from the following range:

- Referral to School Nurse
- Referral to the Young People's Drug Service
- The parents/carers will be asked to attend the school
- School may contact the Police for more serious offences or where there is a lack of cooperation from the parents
- Fixed term or permanent exclusion may be used when other options have been explored or where it is demonstrated that there is a significant risk to the safety or welfare of staff or pupils

### **Related Policies**

Behaviour

Equal Opportunities

Sex and Relationships Education

PSHE

Child Protection

Race Equality