

Saltersgate Junior School

Drugs Education Policy

**PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR
POLICY:**

**MRS M E OXER: HEADTEACHER
Mrs A Webber: CHAIR OF GOVERNORS**

Revision Date	Revision Version	Previous Revision Date	Previous Version	Summary of Changes
Autumn 2006	New Edition			New Edition
Autumn 2009	1	Autumn 2006	New Edition	Minor Changes
08/03/10	2	Autumn 2009	1	Minor Changes
04/04/11	3	08/03/10	2	Minor Changes
06/01/12	4	04/04/11	3	None
13/01/14	5	06/01/12	4	Minor Changes
Spring 2015	6	13/01/14	5	None
Spring 2016	7	20.01.15	6	None
Spring 2017	8	Spring 2016	7	None
Spring 2018	9	Spring 2017	8	Governor Change

Designated Safeguarding Persons:
Mrs M Oxer (Headteacher)
Mrs A Webber (Chair of Governors)

DRUGS EDUCATION POLICY

“The welfare of our pupils and staff is of paramount concern and we shall work together with everyone involved with the school to ensure the continued education and well being of all our children.”

Definition – What is a Drug?

A drug is a substance that, when taken into the body, changes the way we feel, the way we see things and the way our body works.

This policy covers a range of drugs including medicines, tobacco, alcohol, solvents and illegal drugs.

Rationale

Current research indicates that drug use, both legal and illegal, is rising amongst young people. As part of the school's care and welfare of its pupils, we believe we have a duty to inform and educate children about drug use. Drugs are a reality in children's lives and schools share responsibility with parents and the community to educate pupils about the risks and consequences of drug use and misuse and to encourage them to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and practising skills. We also believe that the misuse of any drugs by members of the school community cannot be condoned and will be dealt with consistently and clearly with regard to the needs of the school and the individuals concerned. Fundamental to the school's values and practice is the principle of sharing the responsibility for the education of children with parents, keeping them informed and involved at all times. Effective communication and co-operation is essential to the successful implementation of this policy.

The school is committed to the health and safety of everyone here and we will work together with parents and the local community to enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices and discourage the misuse of drugs.

Purposes

- To develop a whole school approach to drug education in the context of the Science curriculum and the Personal, Social and Health Education programme.
- To provide accurate information about a range of drugs, including medicines, alcohol and tobacco taking into account age- related guidance.
- To explore attitudes and develop skills in making decisions about drugs.
- To have a clear and agreed understanding between everyone in the school community about the implications and possible consequences of drug use and misuse.

- To establish an environment in which the school is free from the misuse of any drugs.

Guidelines

All pupils will follow an integrated drug education programme that is responsive to their needs and relevant to their age, experience and maturity. It will be delivered through the existing curriculum, mainly Science and Personal, Social and Health Education. It will focus on the development of self-esteem and decision making skills.

All staff will be provided with adequate training and support to help them deliver effective drug education and respond to situations with consistency and sensitivity, taking account of religious, social and cultural issues.

We shall share responsibility for the education of pupils with parents, who will be kept informed and involved through newsletters, awareness raising evenings and individual discussions when appropriate.

The school works with other agencies to provide relevant information and co-ordinated support.

The school has a policy for the administration of medicines that must be followed for everyone's safety.

The whole school is designated a no-smoking area.

Management of drug-related incidents

A designated member of staff will be responsible for co-ordinating the management of drug-related incidents, offering sources of support and liaising with outside agencies, including the media.

Procedures

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| Medicines | - | See school policy on administration of medicines. |
| Tobacco | - | See no smoking policy. |
| Alcohol | - | No alcohol will be consumed during the course of a normal school day. |
| Solvents | - | The school will ensure that potentially harmful substances are stored safely, and pupils supervised carefully in the event of them having to be used in the course of their work. The use of aerosol deodorants will be discouraged because of the potential risks to people with asthma or other bronchial problems. |
| Illegal substances | - | No illegal or illicit substances should be brought to school or used on school premises. |

To protect the health and safety of everyone in school, regular checks will be made on site to ensure that drug paraphernalia, particularly syringes, are cleared away. Sanctions, of appropriate severity, will be applied to the intentional misuse of any of the substances described above by any member of the school community on the school premises or while on school trips and visits.

Sanctions, up to and including exclusion will be applied for:

- possession of any drug with the suspected intention of misuse;
- misuse of drugs on school premises;
- supplying/dealing drugs for the purposes of misuse.

Disciplinary action will be taken against staff involved in any of the above.

Conclusion

The welfare of our pupils and staff is of paramount concern and we shall work together with everyone involved with the school to ensure the continued education and well-being of our children.

All staff and parents will be made aware of the content of this policy, the implication for them and the education and welfare of pupils.

Inclusion of Looked After Children and children with Special Educational Needs (Learning Difficulties &/or Disabilities)

Adhering to the school's Inclusion Policy is paramount within all curricular and extra curricular areas. Every effort will be made to ensure that any specific actions appropriate to the individual will be arranged.