

Drugs Education Policy

Title: Drugs Education
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Policy Statement

Authorised by: J Morris _____ Date: 18.7.18 _____

Approved by: J Ash-Edwards _____ Date: 18.7.18 _____.

Academy Policy

Authorised by: D Kenrick _____ Date: 27.6.18 _____

Approved by: J Ash-Edwards _____ Date: 27.6.18 _____.

Custodian: M Sorrell

SUSSEX LEARNING TRUST STATEMENT ON DRUGS EDUCATION

1. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

SUSSEX LEARNING TRUST IS COMMITTED TO:

- 1.1 Maintaining the health and safety of our academy community.
- 1.2 Promoting healthy lifestyles and raising the self-esteem and sense of worth of students at every opportunity.
- 1.3 Informing and educating young people on the implications and possible consequences of drug use and misuse through the Learning Trust's drug education programme, reflecting national and local guidance. Providing accurate information about legal and illegal drugs.
- 1.4 Presenting facts in an objective, balanced, sensitive manner, set within a clear moral and legal framework.
- 1.5 Minimising the risks that users and potential users face.
- 1.6 Encouraging an understanding for those experiencing or likely to experience drug use.
- 1.7 Enabling young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support.
- 1.8 Working in partnership with families.
- 1.9 Informing the police when illegal drug incidents occur within the Learning Trust and working in partnership to decide on the most appropriate response.
- 1.10 Cooperating with other agencies as appropriate in dealing with incidents of substance use or misuse.
- 1.11 Supporting the development and training of staff in relation to their role in implementing the Learning Trust's drug policy.

2. WHAT WE MEAN

- 2.1 **Drugs** are substances taken to change the way people feel or behave.
- 2.2 **Illegal drugs** are those drugs identified by the Misuse of Drugs Act.
- 2.3 **Unauthorised drugs** are alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances or solvents and medicines (unless the medicines are authorised and stored and used as prescribed within the Learning Trust's medical policy).
- 2.4 **Psychoactive substances** are substances which when taken affect mental processes and functioning
- 2.5 **Supply** is giving or selling drugs to someone else including friends or where evidence indicates there is an intent to supply.
- 2.6 **Procurement** is encouraging or arranging for others to supply or provide drugs.
- 2.7 **Intoxication** is being under the influence of drugs.
- 2.8 **Drug using equipment** is any equipment used for the taking of illegal or unauthorised drugs.

WARDEN PARK SECONDARY ACADEMY DRUGS EDUCATION POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Drugs education is seen as an important element in the programme of personal, social and health education which is received by all secondary academy students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 within Learning about Life lessons.
- 1.2 The programme is delivered in the context of the academy as a caring community and takes account of the academy as an integral part of the wider community.
- 1.3 The policy supports current government guidelines, 'DfE Drugs: Advice for schools September 2012'. In this context, the policy supports the principles of reducing the harm that drugs cause to society and preventing today's young people from becoming tomorrow's problematic drug users.
- 1.4 The policy aims to raise student awareness of the dangers of drug taking and to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge and challenging attitudes towards drug taking. Students will develop the skills required to help them take responsibility for their own actions.

2. ORGANISATION AND CONTENT OF DRUGS EDUCATION

- 2.1 Drugs education is firmly embedded in the curriculum and is delivered principally within Learning about Life. The aims of the policy are also fulfilled through aspects of learners' experiences across the formal curriculum (science and English), the informal curriculum (tutor time and assemblies) and through opportunities for extra-curricular activities.
- 2.2 Drugs education is taught within a caring environment using a number of strategies – discussion, group work, independent research and role play. Resources are selected on the basis of their suitability in relation to the aims of the programme and the needs of learners.

3. BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS IN RELATION TO DRUGS AT WARDEN PARK SECONDARY ACADEMY

ACTION WE WILL TAKE:

- 3.1 No student is allowed to have smoking materials (eg cigarettes, tobacco, cigarette lighters or matches) on the Learning Trust premises or on the journey to and from the academy, or on any visit, exchange, or whenever academy uniform is being worn.
- 3.2 Sanctions may be applied to a member of a group involved in breaking the Learning Trust's no-smoking rule, even if the young person is not directly participating. Parents will be informed. For a first offence there will be a one hour after-hours detention. Two after-hours detentions will be given for a second offence. We will work in partnership with parents and other agencies to encourage the student to stop smoking. Subsequent repeated offences may lead to a period of exclusion. Smoking materials will be confiscated.

- 3.3 No student is allowed to have illegal drugs, psychoactive substances or unauthorised drugs or be under their influence on academy premises, or on the journey to and from the academy, or on any visit, exchange, or whenever academy uniform is worn.
- 3.4 Sanctions may be applied to a member of a group involved in breaking this rule, even if the young person is not directly participating. Parents will be informed. A first offence will lead to a fixed term exclusion. We will work in partnership with parents and other agencies to encourage the student to stop their misuse. Repeated offences may lead to permanent exclusion.
- 3.5 Students who attempt to procure, supply or deal in illegal drugs, psychoactive substances or unauthorised drugs, on the academy premises or on the journey to and from the academy, or on any visit, expedition, or whenever uniform is being worn will most likely be permanently excluded. The Police and parents will be informed.
- 3.6 The Policy and actions relating to drugs has the full support of the Sussex Police.

4. IDENTIFYING AND RESPONDING TO DRUG INCIDENTS

- 4.1 The Academy will respond as appropriate to drug incidents which might involve suspicions, observations, disclosures or discoveries of situations involving illegal and/or unauthorised drugs. Searches of property and persons will be carried out in accordance with current national legislation.
- 4.2 A drug incident could involve one of the following :
 - 4.2.1 A young person demonstrates an inappropriate level of knowledge of drugs for their age.
 - 4.2.2 Information may indicate drugs are being used in the young person's home.
 - 4.2.3 A young person discloses that they or a family member/friend are misusing drugs.
 - 4.2.4 Information suggests that the sale or supply of drugs is taking place in the local area.
 - 4.2.5 A young person is thought to be under the influence of drugs.
 - 4.2.6 Drugs or associated equipment are found on academy premises.
 - 4.2.7 A young person is found in possession of drugs or associated equipment.
 - 4.2.8 A young person is found to be supplying or procuring drugs either on academy premises or elsewhere.
 - 4.2.9 A family member or member of the academy staff is involved in any of the above. Sussex Learning Trust will consider each incident on its merits and recognises that a variety of support and/or disciplinary responses may be necessary in line with the academy's Behaviour Policy.
 - 4.2.10 The Academy will seek to balance the interests of learners involved and those of other members of the academy and the local community. This will be consistent with the need to send a strong message to other members of the academy community that smoking, the use of alcohol or drug use are completely unacceptable on academy premises or on the journey to and from an academy or on any visit, exchange or expedition or whenever academy uniform is being worn.
 - 4.2.11 The Headteacher will take responsibility for liaison with the media. As the issue is an emotive one and is likely to generate interest from local and national media, the Headteacher will take appropriate advice to ensure that

the reporting of incidents remains in the best interests of young people, their families and the Learning Trust.

5. CONFISCATION AND DISPOSAL OF DRUGS

- 5.1 Confiscated illegal drugs will be stored securely, locked away and the police notified at the earliest opportunity. The police will collect and dispose of the drug.
- 5.2 Parents or carers will be given the opportunity to collect confiscated items (cigarettes, lighters, alcohol). If not collected, such unauthorised substances will be disposed of in line with the Academy's Health and Safety Policy.

Review: The policy and procedure will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Document Version Control

Date	Version	Comment	Ratified by	Reviewer
12.7.17	2	Updated to include Trust-wide statement	Trust wide Statement ratified by Board of Trustees (12.7.17)	J Morris
24.1.18	3	Insertion of definition of Psychoactive substances and clause 3.3 and 3.5	J Ash-Edwards	D Kenrick
26.7.18	4	Annual review: no substantive changes.	Board of Trustees (18.7.18) WPSA LGB (26.7.18)	D Kenrick