

## South Cave C of E Primary School

### Drugs Policy

#### School aims

Current National Guidance states that the purpose of drug education should be:

- To give young people the knowledge, skills and attitudes to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and relate them to their own actions, both now and in their future life.
- Provide appropriate, accurate and up to date information on drugs, including possible effects on health.

#### Curriculum objectives

Furthermore the whole school approach to drug education aims to extend the child's knowledge of themselves and the world they live in, by providing a caring, secure and supportive environment enabling them to:

- Make informed decisions and choices.
- Develop personal initiative and be able to take responsibility.
- Recognise personal skills and qualities in themselves and others.
- Maintain and develop relationships.
- Develop self-confidence and improve self-esteem.
- Develop assertiveness in appropriate situations.

#### Key skills

Definition:

A drug is any substance which, when taken, has the effect of altering the way a person behaves, feels, sees or thinks. This includes socially acceptable and unacceptable drugs including, tobacco, alcohol, medicines and illegal substances.

- Understand how the body works, what goes onto and into the body, and ways of looking after the body.
- Identify safe and unsafe substances used in the home and school, and apply simple safety rules.
- Medicines and tablets – understand people who prescribe these, the reasons people use them, simple safety rules.
- Learn about caffeine, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs pupils are likely to encounter, their general effects on the body and on behaviour, and the associated risks.
- Identify and understand pressures and influences – including people who might persuade pupils to take drugs, including friends, known adults, peers and older children.
- Dangers from handling discarded drugs related equipment.
- Making choices and knowing the consequences of actions.

#### Organisation and planning (FS/KS1/KS2)

Drug education will usually be delivered by class teachers using both cross-curricular and discrete programmes within the science and personal, social and health education provided by the school. This will be supported by the use of recognised outside agencies and other approved speakers abiding by this policy.

**In EYFS and Key Stage 1 pupils will be taught:**

- Basic information about how the body works, what goes onto and into the body, and ways of looking after the body.
- How to keep safe and know how and where to get help.
- That some substances can harm or help the body and an understanding that all drugs can be harmful if not used properly.
- Medicines and tablets, the reasons people use them, simple safety rules and school rules.

Reviewed 2018

- People who are involved with medicines and drugs (e.g. health professionals, chemists, shopkeepers).

### **In Key Stage 2 pupils will be taught:**

- More detailed information about the body, how it works and how to keep it healthy.
- Different types of medicine (prescribed and over the counter), the value and life-saving qualities of some drugs; safety procedures when using medicines
- To know about the impact of substances such as, caffeine, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs pupils are likely to encounter, their general effects on the body and on behaviour, and the associated risks of drug taking
- To be able to make responsible and informed decisions relating to medicines, caffeine, alcohol, tobacco and other substances and drugs.
- Consideration of why some people take drugs.
- People who might persuade pupils to take drugs, including friends, known adults, peers, older children, stereotypical images.
- Dangers from handling discarded drugs related equipment.
- Introduction to the law relating to the use of legal and illegal drugs.
- To recognise, respond to and take responsibility for their safety and the safety of others and how to get help in an emergency.
- People who can help pupils when they have questions or concerns.

### **Cross curricular links (incl English and maths)**

Opportunities for drug and alcohol education exist within:

- The PSHE Curriculum
- The Science Curriculum
- The PE Curriculum
- The RE Curriculum
- Circle Time
- School Collective Worship/Assemblies
- Special events in school e.g. healthy eating activities, visiting speakers,
- School Council

### **Assessment, recording and reporting**

There is on-going monitoring and evaluation of the drug education programme, teaching methodologies and learning outcomes to ensure that needs are met.

The following principles are applied during drug education delivery;

- Ground rules negotiated for the discussion of this sensitive issue.
- An assessment of where students are at in terms of e.g. knowledge, language, skills, interest and anxieties.
- A range of teaching methods used, in order to encourage the interactive participation of all students.
- Only comprehensive, accurate, up-to-date and unbiased information will be provided.
- Students are given an opportunity to reflect on their learning.

Monitoring of drug education will form part of the whole school monitoring policy/action plan which is the overall responsibility of the head teacher.

### **SEND/equality**

All children will receive drugs education with tasks differentiated accordingly to the needs of each child. Additional adults may also be used to support or work with small groups of children or individuals. Pupils who are pupil premium and/or educational healthcare plans may receive additional support. The needs of children with English as an additional language will be met through planning and support from outside agencies where appropriate. This is outlined in our equal opportunities policy.

## **Health and safety**

### **Prescribed medicines in school**

The school does not store large volumes of medication. Should a pupil be on prescription, we request that the pupil brings in the required dose daily. Medicine must only be administered when accompanied by a written request form. Most medicines must be stored away from children in the reception office. However, a few medicines such as asthma inhalers and Epi-pens must be readily available to pupils and should not be locked away. Some medicines need to be refrigerated and kept in the reception office. All staff should be familiar with normal precautions for avoiding infection and must follow basic hygiene procedures.

All staff are prepared to deal with a drug related medical emergency by calling a trained first-aider. Some members of staff are qualified first aiders and their names are posted at several key positions around school. Professional medical help will be called immediately. The Head Teacher will be notified and the office will attempt to contact the parents/carers of those concerned.

Individual health care plans are drawn up for pupils with special medical needs. These need to be updated at the start of every academic year. These agreements are reviewed jointly by parents and the school throughout the year. The school treats medical information confidentially, however key information is shared amongst staff and kept in class red register folders so that teaching staff and supply staff are aware of an individual's needs. This information is also held in the school office and in the staffroom.

### **Duty of Care**

The guidance points out that case law has interpreted the duty of care to be exercised by school staff as the duty to act as a careful parent would. We would remind staff of the pupil safety issues of staff having personal medication in school, either in desks, bags or holdalls, and the remote possibility of pupils' accessing this. Personal medication should be locked away.

### **Disposal of needles and syringes**

Needles and syringes will be handled with extreme care and only by authorised personnel wearing suitable protective clothing. They will be placed into a box specifically for their storage and taken as soon as possible to the needle disposal centre or handed to the relevant authorities. The site manager monitors the school grounds as a matter of routine. All finds are reported to the head teacher and logged. The pupils are regularly informed of their routine should they find suspicious items on the school premises - the basic rule is do not touch, tell a member of staff.

### **Managing drug related issues**

All staff must be alert to the warning signs which may indicate that a pupil is misusing drugs.

Drug related issues will always be referred to the head teacher. Any such incidents should be dealt with confidentially and logged by the head teacher accordingly.

It is recognised that incidents involving drugs may be symptomatic of other problems and difficulties in the pupil's life and all incidents of this nature will be handled sensitively and result in supportive outcomes for the needs of the individual.

The school will seek to work in partnership with parents, outside agencies and appropriate authorities. This may involve seeking appropriate counselling.

The expectation of the school is that no pupil or adult will come onto the school site under the influence of, or in possession of drugs (except for prescribed medicines). There are no circumstances in which it is appropriate or acceptable for staff, visitors or pupils to use tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs and the procedures below will be followed in such instances. In most of these cases one of the school's designated first aiders may need to be involved and the head teacher should always be informed.

### **Tobacco**

The school's policy on smoking clearly prohibits smoking on the school premises and supports the policy of the East Riding of Yorkshire Council. Tobacco brought to school by pupils will be immediately confiscated and the pupil's parents will be informed and asked to collect the confiscated items. If a pupil continues to bring tobacco into school then further action, which may be exclusion or informing the police regarding the reasonable suspicion of sale of tobacco to children under the age of 16, will be taken. Health Education and Health Promotion work in the school will promote the view that tobacco is a drug and is very hazardous to health.

## **Alcohol**

Sale of alcohol to under 18s is an offence and reasonable suspicion of such activity involving pupils at the school will be reported to the parents and the police.

Should a pupil be found drunk at the school all appropriate steps will be taken to ensure their safe removal from the premises. This will usually be done by informing the parents, but the police or ambulance service will be involved if necessary. Alcohol brought to school by pupils will be immediately confiscated and the pupil's parents will be informed and asked to collect the confiscated items. If a pupil continues to bring alcohol into school then further action, which may be exclusion or informing the police regarding the reasonable suspicion of sale of alcohol to children under the age of 18, will be taken. Health Education and Health Promotion work in the school will promote the view that alcohol is a drug and can be hazardous to health. *See Appendix 2.*

## **Solvents**

Should a pupil be found under the influence of solvent intoxication at the school immediate medical attention will be sought and, if possible, a sample of the substance will be made available to the medical authorities. The child's parents will be informed and asked to remove the child from the premises once medical attention has been given. Solvents brought to school by pupils who are suspected to be for abuse purposes will be immediately confiscated and the pupil's parents will be informed and asked to collect the confiscated items. If a pupil continues to bring such solvents into school then further action, which may be exclusion will be taken. Health Education and Health Promotion work in the school will promote the view that solvent abuse is very hazardous to health. *See Appendix 2.*

## **Controlled Drugs**

Should a pupil be found positively under the influence of drug abuse at the school immediate medical attention will be sought and, if possible, a sample of the substance will be made available to the medical authorities. The police will be informed immediately. The child's parents will be informed and asked to remove the child from the premises once medical attention and police permission have been given.

Drugs found at the school will be secured in a locked box, locked in the school office and labelled with the date, time, place of discovery and signature of the finder - details of the find will be kept. Drugs which are suspected to be for abuse purposes will be immediately confiscated and the police will be informed and asked to collect the confiscated items. Drug taking equipment will be dealt with in a similar way. The police will always be informed. *See Appendix 1.*

Cases involving children and controlled drugs will be considered individually regarding further action, which may be exclusion. Health Education and Health Promotion work in the school will promote the view that drug abuse is very hazardous to health.

In cases where a pupil or other person is found to be supplying or offering to supply controlled drugs the police will be informed immediately. *See Appendix 2.*

## **Confidentiality and Child Protection**

These issues need to be clearly defined as ground rules at the start of drug education lessons for the benefit of both pupils and staff. It must be made clear to pupils that the divulgence of any information deemed to fall into the *significant harm category or putting pupils at risk must* be referred to the school's Child Protection Coordinator.

## **Disclosure**

If a pupil makes a disclosure about the use of illegal substances the head teacher must be informed immediately by the member of staff to whom the disclosure was made.

## **Searching**

Where the head teacher or a member of staff has reason to believe that a pupil's bag/book folder contains unlawful items, including illegal drugs, a search will be conducted. If a pupil is suspected of having illegal drugs on their person they will be requested to voluntarily produce any unlawful substances. If the pupil refuses the Police will be called in to deal with the situation.

### **Staff or other persons under the influence of drugs**

Staff or other persons on the school site believed to be under the influence of drugs and having a detrimental effect upon the education of the pupils or causing a health, safety or security hazard will be requested to leave (so long as it is safe to do so) by the head teacher. On no account will the individual be pursued. If necessary, the relevant authorities will be informed. *See Appendix 3*

### **Further issues**

The school will consult with the police if any suspicious substance, materials or drug taking paraphernalia is found on the school premises. A log number will be collected and the incident recorded by the head teacher. *See Appendix 1.*

In instances when the school becomes positively aware of a pupil being involved in illegal or dangerous activities involving drugs during out of school hours the school will inform the parents and the police if appropriate. This action will be undertaken in a sensitive and supportive manner.

If there is any doubt concerning the safety of a pupil in the home when a drug related incident has been reported to parents, the Social Services will be alerted.

In instances where a child may bring an unknown substance to school which is thought to be drug related the school will confiscate the substance. An explanation will be sought and the procedures outlined earlier will be followed. If a satisfactory explanation is not forthcoming from the child the parents will be contacted and other agencies will be involved if necessary.

### **Staff development**

School based INSET will be provided to enable staff training to take place. External agencies may be invited to provide school based support. When deemed necessary, the school will send individual staff on courses to maintain an up to date approach. All staff undertake regular safeguarding training.

### **Subject leader role**

The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all members of staff under the coordination of the PSHE Co-ordinator whose role is to:

- Collect information, materials and drug education resources.
- Support staff expertise, knowledge and understanding with regard to drug related issues.
- Report drug related issues to the head teacher.
- Link with relevant outside agencies.
- Support the school's role with parents and the community.
- Liaise with other establishments regarding drugs.
- Monitor the provision of Drug Education in partnership with the head teacher.

### **Monitoring and review**

The programmes will be reviewed by the teachers involved in teaching them, in consultation with the PSHE Coordinator. The overall provision will be monitored by the Head teacher, in partnership with the PSHE Coordinator. The school governors will monitor and support this responsibility.

The school's drug education curriculum will both support and enhance the expectations found in the National Curriculum for Science and the frameworks for PSHE.

### **Resources (appendix)**

#### **Appendix 1 – Illegal Drugs Found on Premises**

#### **Appendix 2 – Pupils Under the Influence of Drugs/Alcohol**

**APPENDIX 1**

**ILLEGAL DRUGS FOUND ON PREMISES**

ADVISE HEAD of SCHOOL

KEEP IN A SECURE PLACE

Labelled with the date, time, place of discovery and signature of the  
finder

PHONE LOCAL POLICE TO COLLECT

Drugs Awareness:

Do not touch, sniff, handle

The LA will be notified of all reported incidents

## APPENDIX 2

### PUPILS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS/ALCOHOL

ADVISE HEAD of SCHOOL

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT

INVESTIGATE POSSESSION

CHILD IS IN A SAFE PLACE

INFORM PARENTS

INFORM OTHER AGENCIES AS APPROPRIATE

The LA will be notified of all reported incidents

### APPENDIX 3

## ADULT/PARENTS/CARERS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS/ALCOHOL ON SCHOOL PREMISES

ADVISE HEAD of SCHOOL

Decide on one of the following three options dependent on the particular circumstances of each incident.

LOCAL POLICE

ASKED TO LEAVE  
PREMISES

CONTACT SOCIAL  
SERVICES

Inform LA Advisor of any incident

