



Drugs Education Policy

Introduction

- ◆ **THIS DOCUMENT IS** a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for drugs education at Send C of E First School.
- ◆ **IT WAS DEVELOPED** through a process of consultation with teaching and non-teaching staff.
- ◆ **IT HAS BEEN TAKEN FOR APPROVAL** to the *Governors* in February 2010
- ◆ **THIS POLICY WILL BE REVIEWED** in February 2012

THE SCHOOL'S RATIONALE FOR PROVIDING DRUG EDUCATION

Drug use and misuse have become increasingly common in our society. Children and young people of school age are part of society and as such the school recognises the need to:

- a) prepare and equip pupils for life in a drug using society;
- b) deal with the broad range of drug related situations and incidents which may occur in the lives of our pupils and others involved in the life of the school.

Aim:

The overall aim of drug education in the school is to equip pupils with the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes to enable them to be in a position to make informed, healthy choices and decisions and to prevent or reduce the harmful consequences of drug misuse.

Objectives/pupil learning outcomes:

- To provide accurate information about drugs (*Medicines*).
- To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of the use and misuse of drugs (*medicines*);
- To provide opportunities to examine attitudes and values to drug use;

- To promote the development of personal and social skills relating to health, behaviour and the opportunity to practice them;
- To enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support.

HOW IS DRUG EDUCATION ORGANISED IN THE CURRICULUM?

Context

- Drug education is provided within a broader framework / programme of PSHCE
- where wider issues of promoting health, positive behaviour and social responsibility can be addressed and where drug misuse prevention is but one component.
- The school acknowledges that a positive, health promoting ethos helps pupils to feel valued and part of the school community and in doing so helps to build self-images that may help pupils to cope more effectively in drug related situations.
- PSHCE is integrated within cross-curricular topics and the science (refer to PSHCE policy, citizenship and the scheme of work).

TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS USED IN DRUG EDUCATION

In keeping with the school's approach to PSHCE a variety of teaching and learning methods are used as appropriate to the topic and needs of the pupils, e.g. brainstorming, role play and group discussion.

These strategies enable pupils to;

Place new learning in the context of previous experience;

Explore currently held personal and cultural beliefs and values in the context of new learning;

Apply new learning to other situations;

Relate new knowledge to current behaviour, so as to be able to make and act on informed choices;

Actively consider the implications of the learning for themselves, society and

the environment.

MONITORED AND EVALUATED

Monitoring and evaluation:

The head teacher and co-ordinators will monitor the delivery of the programme through observation and discussion with the teaching staff to ensure consistent and coherent curriculum provision.

Evaluation of the programme's effectiveness will be conducted on the basis of:

Pupil and teacher evaluation of the content and learning processes;

Staff meetings to review and share experience.

Assessment of pupil learning objectives / outcomes by discussion with the children.

Signed _____ (Chair of Committee)

Date _____

THE SCHOOL'S POSITION TO LEGALLY AVAILABLE SUBSTANCES ON SITE.

Substances on site

The school's position is as follows:

Tobacco

The school operates a no smoking policy at all times throughout the building and grounds. (This policy applies to pupils, employees, parents and visitors).

Alcohol

The headteacher must be consulted and permission obtained before arranging any functions at which alcohol may be consumed.

As a rule alcohol should not be consumed at any function where pupils are present but this is left to the careful discretion of the headteacher for each event.

Dealing with a potential situation

If a parent/representative arrives at school who you feel is drunk or under the influence of drugs the child should not be allowed to go with this person and the police should be called.

Solvents

The school recognises that many ordinary substances lend themselves to misuse and therefore need to be carefully stored and managed. White board markers should be kept secure at all times. Cf. COSHH regulations relating to the secure storage and safe keeping of solvent substances in classrooms and labs. Correcting fluid and aerosol sprays should be used with great care and not in confined areas.

Medication: over the counter and prescribed drugs

The school does not administer medicines to the children (Refer to the Health and Safety Policy)

Asthma reliever inhalers are kept by the office staff (Refer to the Asthma policy and medical list) for easy and immediate access (staff must be aware of whom this applies to in order to monitor proper use.

DO YOU NEED TO DEFINE ANY TERMS?

Drug:

This document uses the term to refer to any psychotropic substances; all legal drugs including alcohol and tobacco, all illegal drugs, volatile substances, and over the counter and prescription medicines.

Drug use:

The consumption of any drug. All drug use, including medicinal use, carries the potential for harm.

Drug misuse:

Drug taking through which harm may occur, whether through intoxication, breach of school rules or the law, or the possibility of future health problems.

Drug abuse:

Drug taking which harms health or functioning. It may be a wider spectrum of problematic or harmful behaviour.