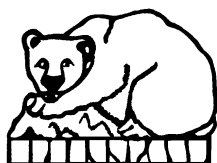


Drug Education Policy



Agreed by Governors	Summer 2015
Date for Review	Summer 2018

WESTFIELD INFANT SCHOOL



Drug Education Policy

Background Information

Westfield Infant School has prepared a drugs policy as part of their legal responsibility to the pupils in their care. At the time of preparation, Summer 2015, there is no evidence that the school has a drug problem.

This policy has been developed as part of a whole school ethos to develop healthy pupils with high self-esteem who are able to take responsibility for their own learning and actions. This policy has been prepared as a 'preventative' approach and will be used in school as part of the curriculum for PSHEE and Science.

This policy has been written using the following documents:

- Drugs: Guidance for Schools DfE 2004
- School Drug Policy Review Process' Blueprint Programme 2004
- DfES and ACPO Drug Advice for School 2012
- DfES guidance: PSHE 2013
- 'The Principles of Good Drug Education' 2012 www.drugeducationforum.com
- 'Principles for Supporting School Drug Education' 2012 www.drugeducationforum.com
- Leicestershire Healthy Schools 'A toolkit for schools'
- Cambridgeshire Primary Development Programme Drug Toolkit
- Leicestershire Constabulary Guidance for School on involving the police around drugs

Definition of a drug: (See section 1.3 and Glossary DfES doc)

'A substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave'.

(United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime)

The term 'Drugs' includes:

- All illegal drugs
- All legal drugs including alcohol, tobacco and volatile substances which can be inhaled
- All over-the-counter and prescription medicines

The purpose of the policy: (See section 6.2 DfES doc)

The purpose of the school drug policy is to:

- Clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities of the school
- Reinforce and safeguard the health & safety of pupils and others who use the school
- Clarify the school's approach to drugs for staff, pupils, governors, parents/carers and the wider community
- Give guidance on developing, implementing and monitoring the drug education programme
- Enable staff to manage drugs on school premises, and any incidents that occur, with confidence and consistency, and in the best interests of those involved

- Ensure that the response to incidents involving drugs complements the overall approach to drug education and values and ethos of the school
- Provide a basis for evaluating the effectiveness of the school drug education programme and management of incidents involving illegal and other authorised drugs
- Reinforce the role of the school in contributing to local and national strategies

Who is the policy aimed at?

All staff at Westfield Infant School have knowledge of this policy. The first point of referral for drug related incidences will be the Headteacher. There is a PSHEE and Citizenship Governor Partner to develop governor support for anti-drug measures within school.

Drug Educational Aims and Objectives

Drug education is a major component of drug prevention.

Whilst PSHEE and Citizenship education remains a non-statutory subject, section 2.5 of the National Curriculum framework document states that:

'All schools should make provision for personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE), drawing on good practice.'

The DfES guidance for PSHE and Citizenship 2013 states that:

'Schools should seek to use PSHE education to build, where appropriate, on the statutory content already outlined in the national curriculum, the basic school curriculum and in statutory guidance on: drug education, financial education, sex and relationship education (SRE) and the importance of physical activity and diet for a healthy lifestyle.'

The schools education programme is part of a whole school approach to the health education of pupils. It is taught in all classes as part of the PSHEE and Science curricula. PSHEE provides an effective context for drug education because they focus on developing skills and exploring attitudes as well as learning about healthy and safe lifestyles. The overall aim promotes spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society and prepares pupils at the school for opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

Drugs of a particular Significance

Pupils need to understand that all drugs have the potential to cause harm; that using drugs in combination can cause risk; and that legal drugs can be addictive as well as some illegal drugs.

At Westfield Infant School we hold an annual Healthy School Week in the spring term. During this week there is a full programme of PSHEE issues being taught by teaching staff and external contributors that include the Life Education Centre and the School Nurse.

Specific aims are to;

- promote and develop positive attitudes and behaviour to good health, understanding how the body functions and how to look after it
- enable pupils to make healthy choices
- develop an awareness that all drugs can be harmful if not used properly, presenting general effects of alcohol and tobacco on the body
- promote the school procedures related to medicines e.g. inhalers, ensuring that pupils are confident in the proper use of inhalers, and create a positive ethos for daily users enabling them to feel comfortable to discuss their own drug use
- develop an understanding about safety rules related to medicines and other substances in the home, including solvents and cleaning products

- develop an awareness of people who are involved with medicines such as health professionals and information enabling pupils to identify sources appropriate for personal and professional support

Methodology and Resources: (See sections 3.2-3.6 DfES doc)

All pupils' learning including those who are vulnerable and those with SEN will be addressed during PSHEE and Science lessons through various active learning methods including:

- Role-play
- Discussions
- Drama
- Creative writing
- Quality Circle Time
- Structured games

Resources

PSHEE books are located in the reception area

PSHEE and Healthy School teacher resources are in the PSHEE coordinator's classroom store cupboard or the Healthy School Week box in the DT Cupboard.

There are a number of PSHEE 'Big Books' located along the corridor of the main school.

Dealing with Drug related Incidences

For the management of drugs at school see sections 4.5, 4.7-4.10, & 5.3-5.5 DfES doc.

The first concern in managing drugs or a drugs incident is the health and safety of the school community and meeting the pastoral needs of the pupils.

As this is an infant school it is highly unlikely that we will have to deal with a drug-related incident, however there needs to be procedures in place just in case a drug related incident occurs.

It is also highly unlikely that the police will need to become involved, however if in the unlikely event that the police are contacted this will be handled in line with the Leicestershire Constabulary Guidance for Schools doc. (See Appendix 1).

Drugs (legal or illegal) related incidents can generally be placed into one of three categories

- Rumours of use or dealing on or off the premises
- Actual use or dealing on or off the premises, including a first aid response
- Disclosures of own or others use from a student or parent/carer and requests for help and support

Responses will need to be equally varied from the punitive to the pastoral. Consider the range of possible drug related scenarios given in Appendix 2.

See Drugs: Guidance for Schools (sections 4.5, 4.7- 4.10, and 5.3 - 5.5) for detailed guidance. Appendix 8 of this document gives a very useful example of how schools responses can be laid out diagrammatically.

Responding to incidents involving drugs (see Appendix 3 for contact numbers and Appendix 4 for a response flowchart)

Drug related incidents will be reported to the Headteacher.

In dealing with any drug related incident the welfare and best interest of the pupils will always be taken into account. It is recognised that the school may experience a variety of drug related incidents including;

- pupils asking about drugs in class
- pupils talking about the use of drugs or demonstrating through actions or play an inappropriate knowledge of drugs for their age
- pupils, parents/carers or staff finding paraphernalia on the school premises
- pupils bringing drugs into school for use or to supply
- pupils, parents/carers or staff under the influence of substances on the premises
- information about anyone in any of the school's families using drugs

In dealing with drug related issues there is no legal obligation on the school's part to provide confidentiality. There may however, be circumstances where it is appropriate. When dealing with a drug related incident, the parameters of confidentiality should be made clear and consistently applied.

Where there is evidence of physical harm or potential harm, the Child Protection Procedures should be implemented and the pupil advised.

A full record of every incident should be made. Storage of sensitive information about pupils or staff should be secure and should accord with requirements of Data Protection Act 1998. Records, including notes of any discussions with pupils may be used in any subsequent court proceedings.

Notes should include the time, date, place and people present, as well as what was said.

In every case of an incident involving drugs, schools should place the utmost priority on safety, meeting any medical emergencies with first aid and summoning appropriate help before addressing further issues. If schools are in doubt, they should seek medical assistance immediately.

Links with other Policies

This policy has links with the PSHEE and Citizenship, Science, Health and Safety, Child Protection and Safeguarding Children, Confidentiality, Teaching and Learning, Integration and Inclusion, Single Equality, Whistleblowing and Special Educational Needs policies.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy will be monitored and evaluated annually by the PSHEE and Citizenship co-ordinator. This exercise will be monitored and undertaken by the Leadership and Management Team who, in consultation with the governor for Drug Education will prepare a brief report to the governing body.

Drug Education Policy Review Date – Summer 2018

Signed Date
 Chair of Governors

Appendix 1

Guidance for schools: Drugs – Involving the Police

The misuse of drugs in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland is a growing issue for all areas, from the larger urban centres to the most rural communities. Misuse of drugs is often associated with levels of poverty, deprivation and crime. While there is some correlation, the growth in drug misuse is such that it affects all our communities irrespective of social disadvantage or privilege and new ways of tackling substance misuse issues have to be found.

Whilst schools should have an effective education programme and policy and procedures for dealing internally with drugs related incidents, there are occasions when circumstances arise which cause schools to involve the police.

Police drug operations within schools are an emotive subject that requires careful planning and clarity of search powers. Recent publicity about the use of "sniffer" dogs has caused further questions as to the legality of certain actions.

It has been decided therefore to provide Headteachers with this specific advice and guidance on what to expect if the decision is taken to contact the Leicestershire Constabulary.

DfES "Drugs: Guidance for schools" (February 2004 - Ref: DfES/0092/2004)

All schools should refer to the document "Drugs: Guidance for schools" published by the DfES in February 2004. This is a comprehensive document which outlines how to deal with substance misuse incidents, what should be included in a schools drug policy, and who should be involved in the consultation, dissemination and evaluation of the policy. Appendix 3 provides a summary of the relevant laws.

Police Involvement

Schools have no legal obligation to report an incident involving illegal drugs to the police. Nevertheless, not informing the police may prove to be counter-productive for the school and wider community.

The law permits school staff to take temporary possession of substances suspected of being illegal drugs for the purposes of preventing an offence from being committed or continued - provided that all reasonable steps are taken to destroy the substance or deliver it to a person lawfully entitled to take custody of it (see DfES guidance para 4.7 for further advice).

Cannabis has been re-classified as a Class C drug. As such it remains an illegal substance. Small quantities of this substance coming into the possession of staff may be disposed of independently but with a second member of staff present and the incident being recorded.

The following are the most common Class A & B drugs and substances suspected of being any of these should be retained for disposal by the police: heroin; ecstasy; LSD; cocaine; crack cocaine and amphetamines.

When suspected illegal substances are handed over to the police, there is no obligation to identify the person from whom they were taken. However, the police will expect to be given any information that may assist in identifying those dealing in drugs.

Schools should be aware that once a police officer (as opposed to a member of school staff) finds illegal drugs on a pupil, the school's discretion as to what action to take no longer exists.

Urgent action required

Where a school has recovered drugs from a pupil, or suspects that a particular pupil is in possession of an illegal substance the police may be asked to attend. Where the pupil is suspected of having possession but has refused to hand it over to a member of the teaching staff, only a police officer has powers available to search under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971. The police officer attending will

seek to obtain the reasonable grounds required for searching from information given by school staff.

Non-urgent action required

Schools may have cause to suspect that illegal drugs are in wider circulation in or around the school. If the decision is taken to involve the police in seeking a resolution, initial contact must be with the Local Policing Unit (LPU) Inspector. This can be done by calling 0116 2222222 and asking for the LPU Commander for your area.

Joint discussions about the perceived problem need to take place before a decision is made as to whether/what type of police action is required. From a police perspective, any operation will only be based upon recent and credible intelligence.

Headteachers are not empowered to authorise the police to conduct general searches of pupils or their personal property. Under normal circumstances the police will not use passive¹ or proactive² dogs to search pupils and their property unless there has been sufficient evidence to obtain a search warrant under the Misuse of Drugs Act from a magistrate. (See DfES guidance para 4.10.2 and appendix 10). There are serious implications for schools when "sniffer" dogs are used. These are outlined in appendix 10 of the DfES guidance and need to be considered carefully.

Because of limited resources, demonstrations of drugs searches by police dogs are not available on request but are sometimes arranged as part of a wider response to suspected drug use. Where such a demonstration is arranged it will not be used surreptitiously as a detection exercise and participating volunteers will be sought from staff and not pupils.

If Police are invited to become involved in dealing with suspected illegal drug possession, the school should have procedures in place of how to deal with the aftermath of such operations. Involvement of the police should be covered in the schools drug policy or as a separate set of procedures (see DfES guidance, appendix 10 to ensure that all eventualities have been covered).

These guidelines must be read in conjunction with the Drugs: Guidance for schools document, which outlines police involvement (section 4.6).

Options other than police action

- 1) Existing Drugs Education Programme that is being delivered in the school
- 2) Heightened awareness via assemblies
- 3) Further support via Healthy Schools Advisors who provide training, guidance and support on drugs policies and best practise for drugs education to Local Education Authority (LEA) primary and secondary schools:

Tel: 01572 758484 (Rutland)

Tel: 01530 278125 (County)

Tel: 0116 2222624 (City)

¹ Dogs will be led by Police Employee and will indicate possible presence of an illegal substance by sitting.

² Dogs will search property and retrieve any potential substances.

Appendix 2

Primary Drug Scenarios

- A pupil demonstrates, perhaps through actions or play, an inappropriate level of knowledge of drugs for their age, e.g. a year 4 pretends to roll/build a joint/spliff in the playground.
- Drugs or associated paraphernalia are found on school premises; e.g. a year 3 pupil finds a used syringe on the playground.
- A pupil is found in possession of drugs or associated paraphernalia e.g. a year 5 pupil drops from their school bag a packet of large cigarette papers with some of the card torn off.
- A pupil is found supplying drugs on school premises, e.g. a year 6 pupil is selling cigarettes.
- A pupil, parent/carer or staff member is thought to be under the influence of drugs, e.g. a drunken parent/carer arrives to take a child home.
- A staff member has information that the illegitimate sale or supply of substances is taking place in the local area, e.g. a teacher overhears a pupil saying that they knew another pupil who bought lighter fuel from the local shop.
- A pupil discloses that they or a family member/friend are misusing drugs, e.g. a year 3 pupil drops a piece of cannabis on the floor and when asked what it is and where he got it he says he doesn't know what it is, but his dad was cutting it up on the kitchen table.

Contacts

**Jane Roberts: Leicestershire County Council Health and Wellbeing manager
Tel: 0116 305 3196**

Swanswell organisation - provider for all drug and substance misuse related services –Tel: 0300 3035000

Support for families

**ADFAM offers information to families of drug and alcohol users, and the website has a database of local family support services. Tel: 020 7553 7640 Email: admin@adfam.org.uk
Website: www.adfam.org.uk**

New Direction:

Leicestershire County Council is a partner in the DART (Drug and Alcohol Response Team) network. This is a local network of statutory and non-statutory agencies committed to providing high quality and consistent advice, support and treatment to young people and families with substance misuse problems. Tel: 0116 2229559

For Class A/B Drugs

**Immediate/Urgent response - an offence is happening - safety under threat
Tel: 999**

**Routine Response – offender off premises – safety not under threat
Tel: 0116 2222 222**

Resource list

Department for Education and Skills *The DfES Drugs Guidance for Schools Document* External contributors to drug education (page 38-40)

Julian Cohen (2004) *The New Primary School Drugs Education Pack* using outside experts in a limited and planned way (page 17)

QCA Guarding Standards (2003) *Drug, alcohol and tobacco education curriculum guidance for schools at key stages 1-4 teacher's booklet*

The use of visitors to support drug, alcohol and tobacco education (page 24-25)

Tacade and London drug Policy Forum (1997) *Making the most of visitors - using outside agencies in school drug education*

Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) Drugs Sub-Committee with Roehampton Institute (1999) *executive Briefing: Drug Education in schools: Identifying the added value of the police service within a model of best practice*

Websites:

Details of local agencies can be found on the Home Office National drugs Strategy website at www.drugs.gov.uk

Appendix 4 - Responding to incidents Involving Drugs Flowchart

