



Drug Education Policy

Agreed on 5.12.18. by the LGB

Signed(Headteacher)

Signed..... (Governor)

Introduction

The school is committed to the health and safety of all its members and will take action to safeguard their wellbeing. The school acknowledges its pastoral role in the welfare of young people and through the general ethos of the school, will seek to persuade pupils who need support to come forward. The school does not support the misuse of drugs or alcohol by members of the school, nor the illegal supply of these substances.

The school considers support of parents essential and will endeavour to ensure that parents are informed of developments in our programme.

The school is aware of the national increase in availability of drugs and is committed to enabling children to make decisions based on facts.

Any pupil found to be involved with illegal drugs will be dealt with severely in line with the procedures stated in this policy. Other agencies may be involved and may ultimately lead to the permanent exclusion of the pupil.

Drug :- Any substance, natural or synthetic, that alters the operation of the Central Nervous System (includes caffeine, solvents, alcohol, nicotine, prescribed and 'over the counter' medicines, anabolic steroids and illegal substances)

Drug Misuse :- the illegal use of drugs for non-therapeutic purposes, including illegal substances, prescription medicines and 'over the counter' medicines and other legal drugs. The school recognises that any drug can be potentially dangerous.

Governing Body and the Headteacher

The Headteacher takes overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation, for liaison with the Governing Body, LA, parents and agencies.

The Headteacher is responsible for the appointment of the teacher with responsibility for Drugs Education.

As with other matters concerning the direction of the school, the Governing Body has been involved in the development of this policy.

Drug Education Governor :- TBC

Teacher with responsibility for Drug Education :- Miss Ruth Lanham

Aims

Through a variety of experience we aim for each child to develop skills in the following areas:

- ❖ To create a positive climate in which teaching and learning can take place where pupils feel comfortable to discuss their perceptions of drug use
- ❖ To provide a variety of learning experiences, using active 'pupil centred' teaching and learning methods, encouraging the development of personal skills.
- ❖ To give children facts and information about drugs, including legal issues and how drugs and medicines are used/misused
- ❖ To enable children to make positive healthy choices and decisions
- ❖ To help, raise and maintain pupil self-esteem and so enable children to recognise positive and negative influences and give them strategies to respond appropriately and make their own decisions
- ❖ To recognise medicines and know how to use and store medicines safely
- ❖ To develop an awareness of drugs in society and to help children explore and become aware of their own and other people's attitudes towards drugs
- ❖ To develop decision making and risk assessment skills

Teaching and Learning Methods

Early Years

Circle time

Topic – 'The Doctor's surgery'

Health Visitor

Key Stage 1 and 2

Through the PSHE scheme of work

Through the Bolton Healthy Schools Project

School Nurse

Visitors and Outside Agencies

Visitors and outside agencies can be beneficial to the enhancement of the curriculum. However, the school feels that if 'experts' are needed to deliver a programme, it may convey a message that drugs are 'special' and beyond the remit of teachers and so they are invited to school to enhance the work of the **teacher led** programmes. Teachers will always be present during any additional input, which the school feels is best delivered in partnership.

Visitors and outside agencies will be made aware of the Drugs Education policy and of confidentiality issues. Any visitor to the school is issued with an induction sheet which clearly states their role and responsibility whilst in the school building and on leaving the premises.

Confidentiality And The Classroom

"The essence of a confidential relationship is openness and agreement about what, if anything, will happen to information disclosed between two people. It need not always take the form of promise or secrecy" ('The Right Responses')

Before the delivery of Drug Education the following points will be addressed :-

- Pupils will be made aware of the boundaries of confidence before disclosures are made and, where appropriate, pupils will develop their rules of confidentiality themselves

- Staff will ensure never to offer absolute confidentiality as they are obliged to share information relating to abuse in line with child protection procedures
- Staff will be made aware of their legal requirements (i.e. there is no legal requirement for staff to disclose information relating to pupil drug abuse although it is expected that they would inform the Headteacher, who would subsequently contact parents)

On disclosure of drug misuse by a pupil :-

- All parties will be considered carefully before other agencies are involved
- All situations will be recorded accurately, including the school's responses and monitoring of pupil progress
- Records will be stored in a secure place

Drug Misusing Parents

The school recognises that children of drug using parents are identified as an at risk group. However, drug use by parents does not in itself indicate child neglect or abuse. Advice will be sought from an appropriate agency where the school becomes aware of family drug use. Issues of confidentiality will be carefully considered prior to action.

Substance Related Incidents

- Substance-related incidents will be taken seriously
- Each incident will be considered individually based on the particular set of circumstances
- The school will balance sanctions, support and education to ensure the well-being of the school community
- A range of responses/sanctions may be used, including the involvement of outside agencies
- All records will be stored in a secure place

When responding to incidents, care will be taken to avoid overreacting to drug use and under-reacting to drug misuse. National Strategy aims to reduce drug related damage to young people's potential – care will be taken to ensure that sanctions do not adversely affect potential to a greater degree than the substance misuse.

Child Criminal Exploitation : County Lines

Drug Education at St. Maxentius School will ensure that pupils are aware that carrying drugs and/or money within an area or beyond the local area is illegal. They will be taught about peer pressure and how to identify when they are potentially being exploited or when they may be at the early stages of grooming. In the case of pupil involvement in Child Criminal Exploitation a referral to the National Referral Mechanism would be considered and/or a referral to social care.

The management of drug-related situations will be co-ordinated through the DSL, Deputy DSLs or the teacher in charge.

Support for Staff

In the event of concern regarding drug/alcohol abuse by a member of teaching staff, reference should be made to the LA's 'Alcohol and Drug Policy'

In the event of concern regarding drug/alcohol abuse by a non-teaching member of staff, reference should be made to the LA's 'Alcohol and Drug Policy'

Health and Safety

The school addresses the welfare and pastoral needs of the pupils in our care. The following precautions are taken:-

- Pupils are actively supervised whilst on school premises
- Potentially hazardous materials and substances are kept in locked cupboards and are inaccessible to children
- The COSHH register is kept up to date by the Health and Safety representative and the site supervisor
- In Science lessons, the ASE Health and Safety guidance is followed when dealing with substances
- The school grounds are checked daily by the site supervisor for discarded syringes and other hazardous objects
- There are qualified First Aiders in school with access to First Aid materials which are regularly replenished.

Equal Opportunities

All children regardless of race, gender or ability will be given equal access to Drug Education. Drug Education resources will be free from bias. Staff must take care to avoid stereotyping. Specialist equipment will be provided where a statement of Special Educational Needs deems it necessary for any child at St Anne's.

Resources

The school has purchased a range of resources. The P.S.H.E. co-ordinator is responsible for monitoring, ordering and replacing resources within the School Development Plan, the Bolton Healthy Schools Plan and through consultation with the staff.

Professional Development

The school co-ordinator has received appropriate training. Details of relevant courses will be made available to staff and relevant INSET provided. The Headteacher will ensure that all staff are adequately supported and trained.

Monitoring

Teachers' medium planning will be monitored by the PSHE co-ordinator and the Headteacher. The PSHE co-ordinator will also be responsible for ensuring progression and that planning matches work through work scrutiny

Evaluation

Evaluation of the impact in school will be undertaken by the class teachers and the subject manager as part of the development of the scheme of work. Meeting time will regularly be assigned to evaluate how the sections of the scheme and policy are working and by ensuring that the progress children are making through the school is ongoing.

Success Indicators

- ❖ There is a positive climate in each class where pupils feel comfortable to discuss their perceptions of drug use
- ❖ A variety of 'pupil centred' learning experiences are offered to children which encourage the development of personal skills
- ❖ Children have been given facts and information about drugs, including legal issues and how drugs and medicines are used/misused
- ❖ Children feel able to make positive, healthy choices
- ❖ Pupils are able to recognise positive and negative influences and respond appropriately
- ❖ Pupils are able to recognise medicines and explain how to store them safely
- ❖ Pupils are aware of drugs in society and are aware of their own and other people's attitudes to drugs
- ❖ Pupils are able to assess risks and make decisions based on their assessment

Dissemination

All members of teaching staff will have their own copy of this policy. Parents will be issued with a copy of the policy.

Review

This policy will be reviewed by the subject manager every two years in consultation with the Headteacher, Governors and staff of St Maxentius. It may be reviewed before this date if it is appropriate to the needs of the school.

Reviewed December 2018

