

Calverton Primary School



Drug Education and Incidents Policy

DRUG EDUCATION AND INCIDENT POLICY

Aim

- To help young people resist drug misuse in order to achieve their full potential in society.
**Drug = A substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave (United Nations Office on Drugs and crime)*

Objectives

- To enable pupils to make healthy informed choices by providing opportunities for pupils to acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to avoid the misuse of drugs.
- To provide a supportive environment and well-structured procedure for any members of the school who require intervention for drug use.
**Drug use is drug taking through which harm may occur, whether through intoxication, breach of school rules or the law, or the possibility of future health problems, although such harm may not be immediately perceptible. Drug use will require interventions such as management, education, advice and information, and prevention work to reduce the potential for harm.*

Those involved

PSHCE Co-ordinator – Sarah Linford

The Co-ordinator will keep updated with local and national issues and disseminate this information to the staff when appropriate.

Budget

The secured budget for the investment and renewal of drug education resources, staff training and use of outside visitors will be included in the yearly PSHCE budget.

Resources

Resources will be bought with reference to DfES Drugs: Guidance for schools and the school's Equal Opportunities Policy so that they are as accessible and relevant to all the students as possible. Drug resources will be kept in the 'Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco, resource box outside the Library. Teaching staff will be made aware of this.

Drug Education

The school is committed to providing an accurate drug education curriculum that meets the statutory requirements as set out in the National Curriculum Science Order September 2000, Appendix 4, but goes beyond that to include a wide-ranging Scheme of Work, Appendix 5, that empowers our pupils to make healthy informed choices throughout their life.

We are guided by *The 1988 Education Reform Act* that asks schools to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that:

- Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of the pupils at the school and of society
- Prepares pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life

The curriculum will reflect a balance between:

- Personal and social skills
- Knowledge and understanding
- Attitudes and values

Drug education is an integral part of the school's PSHCE programme.

The school will use a range of teaching active teaching methods and resources. It will ensure that pupils have opportunity to discuss these issues as well as gain the necessary knowledge and skills, to make informed choices.

Training

Staff should feel confident in their knowledge and delivery of the subject. They should understand the contribution drug education makes to the social development of their pupils. They also need to consider their own experience of, and attitudes to, drug use and what the collective standpoint of the school is.

As part of the schools commitment to providing a comprehensive SOW, the training needs of the staff will be monitored as part of the Drug Education Policy. Basic training will be updated on a regular basis to all teachers of PSHCE through staff INSET. More detailed training will be made available to those that request additional support.

To ensure that lesson planning and delivery is in line with school policy lessons will be monitored as part of the school's monitoring system. Planning will be monitored termly by the PSHCE coordinator.

Use of Outside Visitors

The use of outside visitors and agencies can be highly valuable if part of a structured Scheme of Work where due preparation and evaluation can be given to the visit. School staff will remain present in all sessions

Useful contacts:

- SPARK (Drug & Alcohol Service for London) Ph: 0207 702 0002
Workshops on drug education, counselling, projects for young people
- CREATE, One to One counselling, diversionary activities. Ph: 0208 522 7225
- Plaistow Community Police Team Ph: 0207 275 5982
- Quit (Break-through) Ph: 07940 4388115
Smoking cessation workshops and smoking information / education

School trips, travel to and from school

Adults with classes are not allowed to smoke or drink alcohol, especially applies to residential trips etc. Parent helpers on trips are to be politely reminded that it is not appropriate to smoke in front of the children.

Use of alcohol and tobacco on school premises

Now that all schools are smoke free zones staff are expected to smoke outside the premises away from the view of children. Those staff wishing to stop smoking can access the Newham Smoking cessation service by contacting 020 8270 1301.

Alcohol is allowed on the premises for school social events when children are not present.

Medicines

Also refer to First Aid and Medicines Policy

Asthma pumps are clearly labelled and stored in their classroom cupboard, which staff have easy access to. No other medicines are stored onsite for use with children. Any staff using medication whilst at school must store it in their locker.

School grounds

The caretaker or any other staff that find drug related paraphernalia in the school grounds should clear the area of children. Follow guidelines on how to proceed in Appendix 1: Responding to incidents involving drugs. Needles and the like present an infection risk and need very careful handling and

disposal. Report any such find immediately to the Head teacher. The incident will be investigated as appropriate. Syringe disposal can be organised through the council.

Whole school approach

The following steps will be taken to ensure that there is a whole school approach that encourages ownership and a continued awareness amongst the school and wider community.

- Flow chart for dealing with drug incidents accessible in the school office and at the back of the policy - Appendix 1
- Entering into national health events such as; No Smoking Day, European Drug Prevention Week, drink-drive campaigns etc
- Assembly topics
- Theatre in Education
- Health weeks within the school
- Narconion Drug Awareness visit within the school to year 6 children.

Help Lines

Talk to Frank	0800 77 66 00 (www.talktofrank.com)
Bengali	0800 37 11 42 6pm - 10pm Tuesday
Punjabi	0800 37 11 43 6pm - 10pm Wednesday
Gujerati	0800 37 11 44 6pm - 10pm Wednesday
Urdu	0800 37 11 45 6pm - 10pm Wednesday
Hindi	0800 37 11 46 6pm - 10pm Wednesday
Cantonese	0800 37 11 37 6pm - 10pm Monday

Newham Community Drugs Team 0207 474 2222

The policy was agreed by the School Governors on:

DATE OF NEXT REVIEW: September 2013

Drug Incidents

The school will follow the process set out in Drugs: Guidance for schools (DfES, 2004) - Appendix 1: Responding to incidents involving drugs, Appendix 2: Drug Situations- medical emergencies and Appendix 3 - Record of incident involving unauthorised drug.

However, in addition to this the school will provide a combination of the following to help support our pupils who are involved in drug incidents:

- Pastoral Support Programme
- Counselling through appropriate agencies
- Mentoring
- Supervised break times
- Involvement in extra curricular activities
- Family conferences
- Research project on the drug or related topics

The following is a list of the sanctions that may be initiated when a pupil is involved in a drug incident:

- Loss of privileges
- Supervised break times
- Monitor progress in class

Sanctions will always be used along side support and will be in proportion with the offence.

Incidents will be recorded on a Record of drug-related situation card (a suggested example is given in Drugs: Guidance for schools). These records will be kept in the Head Teachers office. They will be treated as confidential records and only assessable to the Head Teacher and Child Protection Officers.

It is generally good practice to investigate suspected student drug use by looking at factors such as:

- Attendance to school
- Behavioural patterns
- Academic attainment
- Relationships with others
- Physical appearance

Also it is important to consider other areas of the young person's life such as possible family issues. There are no 'hard and fast' indicators of substance misuse, the key factor being noticing a change with the child in question. It is also important to consider that a young person may have other needs that may have influenced substance misuse (e.g. Family break down, exam stress, underlying mental health condition)

Talk to staff and the student concerned separately. Keep the discussion general - avoid asking directly if they are taking drugs; this may cause antagonism and denial. Monitor the situation until the evidence is strong. On a case-by-case approach, judge whether it is appropriate to inform the parents. It may be best to invite them in for a general discussion expressing concern about the student's progress or emotional wellbeing. Work together to put in supportive strategies for the student without focusing specifically on the students' drug use.

If the school is contacted by the media regarding a drug related incident this should be referred to the Head Teacher.

When dealing with a drug incident the relevant policies will be taken into account. These include:

- Confidentiality,
- Behaviour,
- Child Protection.

This will be especially important if there is concern for a child due to parents or carers drug dependency. In such cases the school will endeavour to provide extra support for the child such as:

- Involvement in after-school clubs
- Mentoring / Counselling
- Pastoral Support Programme
- Providing appropriate literature for children of drug using parents and for the parent/carer. This may be done through: suggested involvement in a parent support group. (CREATE & SPARK have a Parent Worker) or provide appropriate literature
- Keeping open communication between the school and the parent/caregiver on the child's progress.

Permanent exclusion is a last resort, once all other support / sanctions have been tried and the health and safety of staff and students are at risk from the continued presence of the student involved. Evidence suggests that exclusion can leave a pupil at more risk of involvement with drugs and only a minority make a successful transition to another school.