

# Lockington CE VC Primary School



## Drugs Education and Incident Policy

Date Policy Formally Agreed By Governors:	updated 2016, 2020,
Date Policy Becomes Effective:	Summer 2020
Review Date:	Summer 2024
Person Responsible for Implementation and Monitoring:	Headteacher

1. This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects its staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Our Christian vision is: 'Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven' (Matthew 5:16).

Our mission statement is:

Our school is committed to working together to develop lively, enquiring minds and promoting outstanding standards of achievement for all in a happy, safe and caring environment, based upon Christian values which encourage all to show respect, acceptance and understanding of others.

## **2. The aims of this policy are to:**

- clarify the school's responsibilities and legal requirements;
- reinforce and safeguard the health and safety of the school community;
- support young people;
- clarify the school's approach to drugs for all staff, pupils, governors, parents/carers, external agencies and the wider community;
- give curriculum guidance on developing, implementing and monitoring drugs education;
- provide consistency in the management of drug incidents;
- ensure that the response to incidents complements the overall approach to drugs education and the values of the school;
- provide a basis for evaluating the effectiveness of the school drug education programme and the management of incidents involving illegal or unauthorised use of drugs;
- enable staff to manage drugs on school premises, and any incidents, with confidence and consistency and in the best interests of those involved;
- reinforce the role of the school in contributing to local and national strategies.

We aim to provide a supportive and nurturing environment in which all pupils and staff are encouraged to develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Drugs education in our school takes account of pupils' views and opinions, so it is appropriate to the age and ability of pupils and relevant to their circumstances.

## **3. Rational**

It is acknowledged that our school community plays a part in tackling drug misuse by providing drug education and pastoral support for all pupils. It is our aim to help pupils to take their place in society where a wide range of drugs exist. Some drugs have beneficial effects; every drug has the potential to cause harm. Therefore, all drugs need appropriate management. To make informed choices, staff and pupils need to understand the nature of the drugs, their social and legal status and their uses and effects.

Drugs education should contribute to:

- increasing the safety of communities from drug related crime;
- reducing the acceptability and availability of drugs to young people;
- reducing the health risks and other related damage caused by drugs.

Drugs education should provide:

- accurate information presented simply and clearly;
- informative and accessible reading materials;
- access to other adults besides teachers, providing they are expert and credible;
- opportunities for children to develop their knowledge and understanding in a challenging and safe environment where they feel secure enough to play a full and active part.

We aim to provide a consistent approach throughout the school and encourage pupils to develop knowledge and skills to make informed and responsible choices now and in later life and to stress the benefits of a

healthy lifestyle. We encourage pupils to develop positive attitudes and values and ensure that health and safety procedures are followed when dealing with incidents/equipment relating to drug use. Welfare of children is paramount and policy and procedures are designed to reflect this commitment.

#### **4. External Guidance and Advice**

The school cooperates and seeks advice from other agencies such as Humberside Police, Social and Health Care Services, the Local Authority, Health and other appropriate agencies to deliver our commitment to drugs education and to manage incidents of drugs use and misuse.

#### **5. Objectives of Drug Education in our School**

Drug education is an important aspect of our curriculum. Drugs education is part of the planned PSHE curriculum and is also delivered through science. The NC guidelines for science require children are taught:

- At Key Stage 1 about the role of drugs and medicines
- At Key Stage 2 that tobacco, alcohol and other drugs have harmful effects.

There are cross curricular links to other subjects such as PSHE, physical education and other aspects such as the spiritual, moral, social and cultural curriculum.

The intention is to increase pupils' knowledge and understanding and clarify misconceptions about the:

- Short and long term effects and risks of drugs
- Rules and laws relating to drugs
- Impact of drugs on individuals, families and communities
- Prevalence and acceptability of drugs amongst peers
- Complex moral, social, emotional and political issues surrounding drugs

Develop pupils' personal and social skills to make informed decisions and keep themselves safe and healthy including:

- Assessing, avoiding and managing risk
- Communicating effectively
- Resisting pressures
- Finding information, help and advice
- Devising problem-solving and coping strategies
- Developing self-awareness and self-esteem.

Enabling pupils to explore their own and other peoples' attitudes towards drugs, drugs use and drug users, including challenging stereotypes and exploring media and social influences.

#### **6. Definition**

'Drugs' includes any substance that affects your body. This includes socially acceptable and unacceptable drugs. These include:

- Tobacco
- Alcohol
- Medicines
- Illegal substances

#### **7. Drugs on the school premises**

The legal definition of school premises includes everything within the property boundaries of the school including buildings, outbuildings, playgrounds, fields, other settings e.g. vehicles or venues managed by the school at the time e.g. premises of a school visit.

#### **8. Illegal drugs, smoking and alcohol on the school premises**

It is understood by the whole school community that the possession, use or supply of illegal and other unauthorised drugs within the school boundaries is not acceptable. The school is a 'no smoking' area for

staff and visitors and we look to everyone to support this policy. If pupils are found smoking, the head will be informed immediately.

Alcohol may only be consumed on the school premises for events organised by members of staff, governors or 'Friends of the School' which take place after the school day. Verbal permission must be obtained from the headteacher prior to the event. The organisers are responsible for ensuring all those consuming alcohol are over 18 years old. Staff are discouraged from consuming alcohol during normal school hours or whilst supervising children. Regular checks of the site will ensure drug paraphernalia are cleared away legally and safely.

The school will ensure that potentially hazardous substances are stored safely and pupils will be supervised if it is necessary they come into contact with them in the course of their work.

#### **9. Prescription Drugs on School Premises**

We follow East Riding of Yorkshire Council Guidelines. Medicines are handled in line with our Medicines in School Policy. In certain cases, prescription medicines may be kept on the school premises. These are kept in specifically allocated places out of children's reach, administered by named staff only (Mrs Reid and Mrs Goldfinkle).

#### **10. Drug Incident: where substance misuse/supply is suspected**

The first concern whilst managing drugs is the health and safety of our school community and meeting the pastoral needs of pupils. Staff will follow the flow chart in the Appendices (Drugs Guidance for Schools, DFES, 2004). The head will then assess the legal requirements, which may involve outside agencies, informing parents/carers, the arrangements for recording and informing other agencies and the health and safety procedures, including safe handling of suspected substances. All incidents will be recorded on the school's incident form. The consequences of such incidents will follow the behaviour policy.

#### **11. Consultation**

This policy was written in consultation with the Governors, teaching staff and support staff. Parents and pupils and other agencies can view the policy on the website. This policy is reviewed every three years or earlier if necessary.

#### **12. Training, Monitoring and Evaluation**

Teaching and learning is monitored in relation to the agreed policy and the school Teaching and Learning Policy. The PSHE Leader has responsibility for monitoring drugs education teaching and learning in conjunction with the headteacher.

#### **13. Roles and Responsibilities**

##### **The Role of the Headteacher**

It is the responsibility of the headteacher to ensure staff and parents are informed about the drugs policy and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is the headteacher's role to ensure staff are given sufficient training so they can teach effectively and handle difficult situations sensitively. The Headteacher will monitor the policy and report to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

##### **The Role of the Governors**

The governing body has the responsibility for the policy and will support the headteacher in following the policy. Governors will inform and consult with parents about the policy. The governors will liaise with the LA and health organisations so that the school is in line with the best advice available.

##### **The Role of Parents**

The primary role in children's drugs education lies with parents. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of the children in our school through mutual understanding, trust and cooperation.

In promoting this objective we will:

- Inform parents about the school drugs education policy and practice;
- Invite parents to view materials used to teach drugs education in our school.

The procedure for an emergency applies when a child or others are at immediate risk of harm. A person, who is unconscious, has trouble breathing, is seriously confused or disorientated or who has taken a harmful substance should be responded to as an emergency. It is also important to assess the safety and well-being of others and use first aid procedures if necessary. If in doubt, call for medical help.


If needles and syringes are found they should not be touched but should be reported to the headteacher and local council collection team. If a needle injury is sustained do not suck the wound. Clean the wound, cover it and visit your doctor or accident and emergency department and enquire about immunisation.

## Review

This policy will be reviewed during the Summer Term 2023.

Person responsible: Headteacher

Date reviewed January 2020

Signed:  (Headteacher)

Signed:  (Chair of Governors)

### Appendix 1

Illegal drugs found on the premises:

- Advise headteacher/designated teacher
- Keep in a secure place
- Phone the local police to collect
- Do not touch, sniff or handle
- The LA will be notified of all reported incidents

### Appendix 2

Pupils under the influence of drugs:

- Advise headteacher/designated teacher
- Emergency medical treatment
- Investigate possession
- Child in safe place
- Inform parents
- Inform other agencies as necessary
- Inform LA advisor of any incident

### Appendix 3

Parent/carer under the influence of drugs/alcohol on school premises:

- Advise headteacher/designated teacher
- Decide on one of three options depending on the circumstances: local police; asked to leave; contact social services
- Inform LA advisor of any incident
- No alcohol will be permitted to be drunk by a member of staff on school premises without the written permission of the Headteacher

### Appendix 4

Staff/governor on school premises:

- Advise headteacher/designated teacher
- Put in safe place

- Emergency procedures
- Arrange for them to leave premises
- Consider appropriate risk action

**Appendix: Responding to incidents involving drugs**

