



# **St John's C of E Primary Academy**

## **Drugs and Substance Misuse Policy**

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### **Key Personnel**

**Principal:** Sarah Cockshott

**Chair of Governors:** Fr Roger Gilbert

## **Drugs Education Policy**

### **St. John's CE Primary Academy**

#### **Introduction**

Drugs Education, both teaching and raising awareness, is a responsibility we share with parents, families and the wider community.

The teaching of Drugs Education will be intrinsic to other subjects, particularly Science and PSHCE.

#### **Why teach Drugs Education?**

The teaching of Drug Education is essential, and the Curriculum Guidance for Schools indicates that:- "Drugs misuse now affects many communities in the country and crosses gender, ethnic and social boundaries."

Drugs Education, allows children to have the necessary information to make informed decisions about what is harmful and what is good.

#### **Definition**

A drug is defined as a substance that can change the way a human body works, either physiologically or psychologically.

In the programme of teaching, drugs are defined as:-

- Volatile substances e.g. petrol, aerosols, butane.
- Over the counter medicines e.g. paracetamol, cough medicine.
- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Other legal drugs e.g. caffeine
- Illegal drugs e.g. cannabis, heroin, ecstasy

#### **Aims and Objectives**

We have identified the following objectives to be covered.

We aim:

- To increase knowledge and understanding of drugs and their effects by providing accurate information.
- To improve self-knowledge, particularly in terms of risk-taking and keeping safe.
- To promote positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles: to challenge and try to modify these when they may lead to behaviour harmful to health.
- To promote a sense of responsibility towards taking drugs.
- To develop social skills such as making informed choices and resisting unhelpful pressures from peers and from advertising.

#### **Teaching Styles**

We will develop a wide range of teaching approaches to deliver the content of the Drugs Education programme, to include:-

- Role play.
- Discussions and activities with a class, group or individual basis
- The use of television, videos and other media
- Whole school assemblies with guest speakers

Drugs Education will be taught as part of planned units of study within timetabled PSHCE and Science lessons.

## **Programme of Study**

### **Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1**

We want children to:-

- Know the school rules relating to medicines.
- Understand the roles of medicines, and why people use them.
- Have basic information about how the body works and ways of looking after it.
- Understand that all drugs can be harmful if not used properly.

### **Lower Key Stage 2**

- Know the school rules relating to medicines.
- Have knowledge and understanding of the different types of medicines (prescribed and over-the-counter)
- Have knowledge of the people who can help children if they have questions or concerns
- Understand that all drugs can be harmful if not used properly.
- Know the dangers from handling discarded syringes and needles.

### **Upper Key Stage 2**

- Know the school rules relating to medicines, alcohol, tobacco, solvents and illegal drugs.
- Have more detailed information about the body, how it works and how to take care of it.
- To have knowledge of different types of medicines, including their form, their effects and associated risks.
- Be aware of the law relating to the use of legal and illegal drugs.
- Have knowledge of the people who can help children when they have questions or concerns.
- Understand that all drugs can be harmful if not used properly.

## **Monitoring and Review**

The PSHCE Subject Leader provides support and advice to other members of staff, monitors quality of teaching and is responsible for evaluating and reviewing the programme and provision for Drugs Education across the school.

S/he will also further staff development by providing opportunities for staff to update and extend their knowledge and expertise in Drugs Education.

The PSHCE Subject Coordinator in discussion with the staff, The Head Teacher and the Governing Body will review the policy every year.

## **Procedures for dealing with drug related incidents**

1. If a pupil is not cooperative, he/she may be detained if the pupil is in possession of, or is deemed on reasonable grounds of suspicion to have taken, an illegal substance.
2. A teacher may not search a pupil's person or possessions but a search of school property is permissible.
3. This Academy views drugs related incidents seriously. In the event of any pupil being in possession of or being under the influence of drugs in school, that pupil will be automatically suspended. Further punishment and counselling may be arranged.

4. A solvent will be determined as any volatile, strong smelling substance, such as adhesives, aerosols, tippex thinners, nail varnish remover, cleaning agents, fuel, petrol or petrol based solutions which may be inhaled.
5. During lessons, materials such as glue will be the responsibility of the class teacher, who will ensure that adequate care is taken in the distribution, use and collection of these materials.
6. Pupils will not be allowed to carry or use aerosol deodorants while under school supervision, roll-on types will be permitted.