



"I am able to do all things by the one who strengthens me" - Phillipians 3:14

GROWING - BELIEVING - SUCCEEDING

"We will all achieve our very best by loving learning, showing resilience and by developing Christian values within our community".

PLEASE REFER TO THE COVID-19 POLICY FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE

DRUGS & SELF HARM

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, the school uses the following definitions:-

The term "drugs" to include caffeine, medicines, illegal drugs, tobacco, alcohol and solvents.

The term "Self-harm" to be any deliberate, non-suicidal behavior that inflicts physical harm on someone's own body and is aimed at relieving emotional distress. Self harm in young children is a sign of distress. It can include cutting, scratching, burning, banging and bruising, overdosing (without suicidal intent) and deliberate bone-breaking/spraining. Risk factors associated with self-harm include:-

- Mental health disorders including depression and eating disorders
- Drug/alcohol abuse, and other risk-taking behaviour
- Recent trauma eg death of a relative, parental divorce
- Negative thought patterns and low self-esteem
- Bullying
- Abuse – sexual, physical and emotional
- Sudden changes in behavior and academic performance.

The policy applies to all members of the school community.

PRINCIPLES

The School is committed to the health and safety of all of its members and will take action to safeguard their well-being

The School does not condone either the misuse of drugs, alcohol or solvents by members of the School, or the illegal supply of these substances

The School acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of pupils and staff and will seek to persuade those in need of support to come forward. The School will also endeavour where possible to keep records and/or counselling on a confidential level

The School takes very seriously any incident involving self-harm, misuse of drugs, alcohol or solvents and will act to address any such issue as a matter of urgency, which may include advising the Police as appropriate

Fundamental to the school's values and practice is the principle of sharing the responsibility for education of children with parents by keeping them informed and involved at all times. Effective communication and co-operation is essential to the successful implementation of this Policy.

Drugs Education will be delivered within the context of PSHCE and the schools equal opportunities policy. The policy takes full account of the DFE guidance 'Drugs Guidance for schools 2004'.

The school will be vigilant in looking for signs of self-harm and will seek advice from the school nurse and other agencies.

AIMS

Drugs Education should enable pupils to develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, relating to their own and others' actions' DFE - 'Drugs Guidance for schools' 2004.

Policy approved.....at a Full Governors Meeting

Date of meeting: 9 July 2020

Minute Number Bulk approval Item 12

Renewal Frequency: Annual



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The overall aims of the drugs education programme are to:

- Develop a range of skills to enable children to make their own, informed decisions about drugs.
- Develop rules for, and ways of keeping them safe.
- Increase knowledge and understanding about legal /illegal drugs and how these relate to personal health.
- Be part of a whole school approach via an integrated PSHCE curriculum.
- Help pupils identify effective and trustworthy sources for help and support.
- To understand risks and consequences associated.
- Develop self-confidence and assertiveness.
- To explore a range of views, clarify attitudes and challenge stereotypes.
- To ensure pastoral support and care is available for those members of the school community who suffer as a result of misuse or abuse.
- Learn how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.

TEACHING METHODS

Drugs Education builds on what the learner already knows; develops understanding through enquiry and problem solving; makes the learning enjoyable and challenging and makes children partners in their own learning. Drugs education at Sale & Davys Primary School is delivered in an interactive, thought provoking and interesting manner using a variety of active teaching methods and approaches.

THE DRUGS EDUCATION PROGRAMME

The drugs education programme is taught in a caring and safe environment where children's genuine questions and concerns can be sensitively addressed .

- A group agreement is established and reviewed periodically through discussion with pupils.
- Ground rules that are set to cover issues such as teachers' and pupils' rights to privacy and respect and the boundaries of discussion.
- Pupils and teachers are discouraged from revealing any personal information.
- Distancing techniques using third person case studies, role-play and de-personalised discussions and anonymous question boxes are strategies used by staff.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governing Body will:

- Be involved in any substance related incidents in the same manner as any other matter concerning the direction of the School

Our school has a named governor for drugs education, this is currently Judith Thompson. All governors are consulted about the drugs education provision and policy and are kept up to date at Governor's meetings.

PARENT / CARER INVOLVEMENT

We value the important role parents/carers play in our school community and are committed to ensuring they:

- Are consulted and informed about drug education programme via the newsletter
- Have the opportunity to attend a drug awareness session

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MANAGING DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS

Other than the legitimate use of medicines, it is against the school rules for children to bring any other drugs onto the school premises. A drug related incident at school is likely to concern the inappropriate use of medicine by children. Sometimes it might involve drug related incidents with parents.

The school believes it is in the best interests of all concerned to inform parents/carers of any reported drug related incidents. The exception would be where the school believes the child would be at serious risk from parent/carer.

As in all circumstances when a pupil is at risk of abuse or neglect the Child Protection Procedures will be applied or a referral to the Social Services Department for a Child in Need Assessment if the school feels it doesn't constitute a child protection investigation. The school will take full account of the circumstances when considering the role and involvement of the police. However if illegal drugs are found on the school premises the local police will be informed immediately.

DISPOSAL OF INJECTING EQUIPMENT

Injecting equipment such as needles, syringes, spoons or filters may carry blood borne viruses and need to be handled with extreme care. If staff find discarded injecting equipment they will follow the following procedure:

- Avoid handling the syringe where possible. Where possible sweep up the equipment onto a dustpan or piece of card. If staff have to pick up the syringe avoid the needle and handle by the barrel. Hold it so the needle points away from the body.
- Place any paraphernalia into a sharps container or rigid container to be clearly labelled.
- If staff should sustain accidental injury from such an implement, seek medical attention immediately and complete an accident form.

ADMINISTRATION AND STORAGE OF MEDICINES

Medication will only be administered with a written request from parents/carers, unless under exceptional circumstance as noted below. All prescribed medication is stored in the refrigerator or secure cupboard in the office. (Refer to Medical Needs/First Aid policy)

The school keeps a supply of Calpol. In exceptional circumstances the Headteacher may administer this, **but only after obtaining verbal permission from a parent/carer.**

OUTSIDE AGENCIES

All agencies involved with delivering drugs education will receive a copy of this policy. Inputs from outside agencies are jointly planned with those concerned ensuring a consistent approach with the school ethos. We also ensure their delivery and messages match with our standards of practice.

PASTORAL SUPPORT

The school takes its role in the promotion of the pupils' welfare seriously. Staff endeavour to make themselves approachable and to provide caring and sensitive pastoral support for pupils in a number of ways:

Staff may be approached for help on an individual basis. They offer a listening ear and where appropriate information and advice.

Where appropriate pupils are referred to school nurse and/or outside agencies.

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School staff cannot promise absolute confidentiality if approached by a pupil for help. Staff must make this clear to the pupils. Child Protection procedure must be followed when any disclosures are made.

MONITORING AND REVIEWING

Drug education is reviewed and evaluated as part of school practice by the staff and the children to ascertain what has been learnt and to establish how future work may become more effective.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The school's drugs education programme of study is designed to promote the achievement of our aims and to ensure that all children have equality of access to them.

Children may have varying needs regarding Drugs Education, depending on their circumstances and background. The school strongly believes all pupils should have access to Drugs Education that is relevant to their particular needs. To achieve this, the schools' approach to Drugs Education will take account of:

- Ethnic and cultural diversity
- Varying home backgrounds
- Special educational needs

Pupils who are assessed to be vulnerable will receive additional drug education support, e.g. one to one support, additional sessions.

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