



GREENHOLM PRIMARY SCHOOL

DRUGS POLICY

Overarching Statement

As a school we are very proud of everything we achieve with our children and believe that by working in partnership with parents and children everyone can achieve their best in a safe and happy environment. The school has a strong ethos and a clear code of conduct that supports and underpins this. With regards to drugs and alcohol we recognise that misuse (whether that be by the child, parents or any school staff) undermines the ability of children to achieve their best and develop into happy and confident citizens. This policy therefore sets out to provide clear information to ensure our children are not affected negatively by misuse of drugs and alcohol and moreover are equipped through education to make positive choices as they grow older.

Development process

This document has been based on the most recent advice from the DfE and Association of Chief Police Officers found in *DfE and ACPO drug and advice for schools*. It has involved different members of the school community- namely members of the SLT and teaching staff, science co-ordinator and governors on the curriculum and standards committee (which includes parent governors).

Location and Dissemination

This policy is designed to be read in conjunction with other key documents including the behaviour and safety policy and the school's overarching safeguarding policies. It also has links to the ICT safe use policy.

Context of Policy and relationship to other policies

This policy has links to other written school policy including behaviour, health and safety and safeguarding.

Policy Application

This policy applies to all staff, pupils, parents/carers, governors and partner agencies working with the school.

Local and National References

This policy has been written to protect and inform children at Greenholm Primary School about drugs and related issues. It is written in accordance with:

- DFEE Circular 4/95 Drug Prevention and Schools
- DFEE Good Practice in Drug Education in Schools and the Youth Service 1988
- SCAA An interagency guidance for drug education and the response to drug related incidents in schools.



Its further development has been based on *DfE and ACPO drug and advice for schools (September 2012)* and in particular *Annex A- Suggested Drug Policy Framework*

Aims and Purpose of Policy

The aims of the policy are:

- To provide a consistent approach to drug education throughout the school at an age-appropriate level.
- To provide a consistent approach for dealing with drug related incidents involving pupils, parents and staff.
- To discuss attitudes and ideas of pupils towards substance use and misuse
- To help develop the skills that pupils may need to make healthy, informed and responsible choices now and later on in life
- To raise pupil's awareness of the consequences and misuse of drugs and related substances
- To encourage pupils who may be experimenting with or misusing drugs and related substances to stop and for them to know where to find support if needed.
- To have a common shared understanding of key vocab.

Definition

"Drugs" are taken here to mean those that are legal, such as alcohol, tobacco and solvents, over the counter and prescribed drugs, and illegal drugs such as cannabis, ecstasy, amphetamines, heroin, crack/cocaine, LSD etc. This may also include those substances known as "legal highs" and e-cigarettes.

School stance towards drugs, health and the needs of pupils.

Illegal and other unauthorised drugs are not acceptable within the school site

The school believes that the possession and or use of such drugs in school, during the school day or while travelling to/from school is unacceptable. The drugs/substances covered by this policy are not to be bought, sold or otherwise exchanged or brought onto school premises during the school day, or while pupils are on school visits and residential trips.

Individual exceptions may be made for pupils who require prescription medicines where appropriate. Responses to all issues regarding prescribed medication are outlined in the school Medication Policy.

All incidents of misuse should be referred immediately to the member of staff with key responsibility for drugs.

Managing Drug Related Incidents

It should be noted here that, when dealing with drug-related incidents, the school has adopted the procedures as set out in *Drugs: guidance for schools (DfES/0092/2004)* and *DfE and ACPO Drug Advice for Schools (DFE-00001-2012)* and that all staff, parents/carers and pupils will be reminded of these procedures on an annual basis.



If it is suspected that a pupil is involved in the misuse of drugs, the school will undertake any of the following that is considered appropriate:

- Take any immediate medical action necessary for the health and safety of the pupil concerned and other pupils who may be directly or indirectly involved.
- Initiate prompt discussion about the child between school personnel who know him/ her well
- Inform parents where appropriate
- The support of outside agencies will be sought if appropriate
- While there is no legal obligation to inform the police/social services, they may also be involved at the discretion of the head teacher in consultation with governors and staff who know the young person well
- The school will consider each incident individually and will employ a range of responses to deal with each incident. Specific cases will be managed as per Appendix B: all staff, pupils, parents/carers will be informed of these issues.
- Any medical emergencies will be dealt with as per Appendix A
- The school will consider each substance incident individually bearing in mind the consequences/ implications of any action it may take, seeking to balance the interests of the pupil involved.

The school has also adopted the following as an essential part of the policy:

APPENDIX A : Drug situation – medical emergencies

APPENDIX B : Responding to incidents involving drugs

Searching pupils

At this time (2012), the advice of the DFE is that “school staff can search pupils with their consent (depending on factors such as age) for any item which is banned by schools rules. Head teachers and staff authorised by the head teacher have the power to search pupils or their possessions, without consent, where they suspect the pupil has weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs and stolen items”.

Staff with Key Responsibility for drugs

The head teacher takes overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation, for liaison with the governing body, parents, LA and appropriate outside agencies. The head teacher will ensure that all staff dealing with substance issues are adequately supported and trained.

All staff have a responsibility to protect pupils in their care and will teach drug education where appropriate (as set out in the curriculum) as part of their teaching requirements. Staff will be consulted and offered training opportunities and given support where needed.

Staff involved with drugs/ alcohol misuse.

It is recognised that staff have lives outside school but where this leads them to compromise their professional integrity and compromise their status then this will be dealt with according to the



schools Disciplinary policy. Support will be made available. Where these occasions become regular this could lead to dismissal.

Parents

The school's drug policy will be available for parents to view online and where needed information will be presented to parents about drug issues and raising awareness. Relevant outside agencies will be consulted for information, guidance and support, if necessary, e.g. Parents for Prevention.

The school recognises that some parents may have addictions or may be affected by addiction, which in turn will have an effect on pupils in and out of school. At all times the school will implement the safeguarding policy and if there is any occasion when safety or protection of the child is compromised the Designated Senior Person will take the appropriate action. This may involve outside agencies in making assessments of the child's well-being.

Wherever possible the school will endeavour to support parents with their addictions and signpost to support groups for advice if necessary.

Curriculum

The school provides a planned drug education curriculum through the current Requirements/guidance from the Department for Education. This includes elements of PSHE education, Citizenship, Science etc.

On the whole, it will be teachers who will teach drug education but, where appropriate, outside visitors may make a contribution. Such visitors should be used in a planned way and their contributions evaluated. Teachers will have access to on-going advice, support and training as part of their own professional development.

Drug Education Programme Overview through science, PSHE, Circle time and Life Education Centre.

Year Group	Term		
	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Reception	- Developing a sensible attitude to tasting unknown foods		
Year 1			- Know medicines help to make us better - Know medicines are useful but are drugs and can be dangerous - Recognise hazards and risks in medicines and how to avoid them
Year 2	Choices in PATHS	Choices in PATHS	Choices in PATHS



Year 3		- Understand what it means by a healthy diet	
Year 4			- Medicines are harmful if they not taken according to prescription
Year 5			- Know that substances like tobacco, alcohol and other drugs can affect the way the body functions and these effects can be harmful - Know that medicines are also drugs and also affect the way the body functions but the effects are usually beneficial though there may be side effects - that medicines can be harmful if they are not taken according to the instructions - Gain confidence to deal with peer pressure of smoking
Year 6			- Making decisions/ attitudes towards drugs and alcohol

Organisation and Teaching Styles

Drug education must be interesting for pupils, as well as informative. In order to achieve this a variety of teaching styles will be developed. These may include: discussions, questionnaires, role-play, drama, quizzes, videos, brainstorming, play-writing, problem-solving, decision-making and talks.

They may form part of whole class/ individual/ group activities.

Special Educational Needs and Equal Opportunities

All pupils will be involved in drug education at Greenholm Primary School, regardless of race, culture, gender or ability.

Resources

A range of resources will be used to implement drug education at Greenholm Primary School.

The resources to be used will be carefully selected with regard to the content of the lesson and the age and ability of pupils. The cultural needs of the children will also be considered.

Resources from the Health Resources Centre can also be ordered to compliment the teaching objectives where appropriate.



Monitoring

The Curriculum and Standards Governing Body Committee will have the responsibility for monitoring the whole school implementation of the policy throughout the year in consultation with the Head Teacher and other staff.

Review

In order to keep up-to-date with current initiatives and training, the policy will be reviewed annually.

OFFICIAL POLICY