

# Policy on Drugs Education and Managing Drug-Related Incidents



Uffington  
Church of England  
Primary School

## 1. Introduction

1.1 Our school believes in the right of every child to a broad and balanced curriculum. We believe all children should have access to education programmes that equip them with the skills, knowledge and attitudes to make healthy and informed decisions about their lives now and in the future. The aims are fulfilled through the taught curriculum and through opportunities within informal and extra-curricular activities. In order to deliver this commitment, there is also a role for appropriate support agencies, for example, the local authority (Lincolnshire Stay Safe Partnership), Social Services, Health Advisers and the Police.

1.2. This policy outlines the purpose, nature and management of Drugs Education and drug-related incidents at Uffington School.

1.3. This policy reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole teaching staff and has the full agreement of the Governing Body.

1.4. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all staff.

1.5. Drugs education should be incorporated into the planning of Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHEE) and Science at both KS1 and KS2 and in the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be overseen by the Headteacher and subject leader for PSHEE.

## 2. Objectives

2.1. Our approach to Drugs Education seeks to support the following aims in respect of drug use and misuse:

- To enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and developing and practising skills;
- To provide accurate information about substances in relation to personal safety;
- To develop an understanding that all medicines are drugs, but that not all drugs are medicines, and that all substances are harmful if not used properly;
- To increase understanding about the implications of and possible consequences of substance use and misuse;
- To enable pupils to identify sources of appropriate personal support;
- To widen understanding about related health and social issues including crime and impact upon both family and community.

### **3. Our Commitment to Drugs Education**

**We:**

- Endeavour to consult with parents on matters of health education policy;
- Provide the opportunities where necessary for further training for teachers to teach Drugs Education;
- Listen to the views of children in our school regarding drugs education, look positively at any local initiatives that support us in providing the best drugs education teaching programme that we can.

### **4. Policy**

4.1. In preparation for their future in secondary school and beyond, we believe we have a duty to inform and educate in the consequences of drugs misuse and use. Therefore, as part of the care for pupil welfare, this school states categorically that it is against the misuse of drugs, alcohol and solvents by all members of the school. The school is opposed to the illegal possession or supply of those substances on its premises.

4.2. The school is committed to the health and safety of all its members and will take action to safeguard their well-being. We are a non-smoking school and expect all staff and visitors to abide by the policy to maintain a healthy environment.

4.3. The school acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of the children and will seek to provide a safe atmosphere where pupils feel they can talk about their problems or concerns with staff.

4.4. In response to shared concerns at a local and national level, and as part of its care for the welfare of its pupils, the school believes it has a responsibility to inform and educate children of the role of medicines and that all drugs can be harmful if not used properly. The school believes health education is a vital part of the personal and social development of every pupil.

4.5. The school is aware that effective communication and co-operation with parents / carers is essential to the successful implementation of this policy.

4.6. The policy has been drawn up by the subject leader for PSHEE and in full consultation with staff, the Headteacher and governors (including Parent Governors).

### **5. The Role of the Headteacher and Governing Body**

5.1. The Headteacher takes overall responsibility for this policy and its implementation, for liaison with the Governing Body, parents, the Local Authority, appropriate outside agencies and the appointment for a subject leader for Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education. The subject leader for PSHEE will have general responsibility for handling the daily implementation of this policy. The Headteacher will ensure that all staff dealing with substance issues are adequately supported and trained where necessary.

5.2. The Governing Body will be involved in substance education and substance-related incidents in the same manner as any other matter concerning the strategic direction of the school.

5.3. The school will consider any incident involving substances individually and recognises that responses will vary according to each incident. In all instances, it will be necessary to inform the Headteacher. The school will consider very carefully the implications of any action it may take.

5.4. The Headteacher will take responsibility for liaison with the media. As the issue of substance misuse is an emotive one, and is likely to generate interest from the local and national media, the school will take appropriate advice and guidance from the Local Authority Press Office and Legal Department to ensure that any reporting of incidents remains in the best interests of the young people, their families and the school.

## **6. School Guidelines for Responding to Drug-related Incidents**

6.1. There are a number of situations that staff in school could have to deal with. These are considered here as an emergency: intoxication, finding evidence, disclosure and suspicion.

### **6.1.1. Finding Evidence, Disclosure, Suspicion of Drug Misuse**

If a pupil is discovered, or is suspected of using or possessing a substance, including tobacco or alcohol, that is not allowed on the school premises, then the following action will be taken (as in line with the Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy agreed by the school and local safeguarding partnership):

1. The substance will be confiscated in the presence of two adults;
2. The substance will be labelled and dated and locked in a safe place;
3. The pupil's parents / carers will be contacted;
4. The Headteacher, after consultation with the parents / carers, will decide what to do next. Details of their discussion and agreed action will remain on file.
5. If there is a suspicion of or a disclosure relating to drug misuse, Action Points 3 and 4 above will be followed.
6. The school cannot knowingly allow its premises to be used for the illegal production, preparation, supply or misuse of any drug. Where it is suspected that substances are on the premises, details regarding those involved and as much information as possible, will be passed to the Police Liaison Officer as appropriate.
7. If a member of staff or adult is discovered misusing a substance, including tobacco or alcohol, he or she will be subject to the procedures detailed in the school's Disciplinary Policy.

## **8. Emergency Telephone Numbers and Contacts**

All emergency telephone numbers and contacts are available in the school office.

## **9. Monitoring and Review**

The Headteacher and staff will review this policy biennially. Any suggested amendments will be presented to the Governing Body at their first meeting following review.

Policy reviewed by the Curriculum and Standards Committee	November 2022
Next review	November 2024

