

BISHOP WOOD C OF E JUNIOR SCHOOL
DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY



1. Aims and Objectives of the Policy

Our school aims to provide a secure and caring environment in which young people can learn to develop sound moral values of self-respect and self-discipline, consideration and respect for others. We are committed to the health and safety of all who come into contact with the school and will take action to safeguard their wellbeing.

In accordance with these values, this policy aims to set out the school's approach to teaching and learning about drugs and the school's management of situations involving drugs.

The school subscribes to the code of practice laid down by the Hertfordshire Drug Action Team as stated in '**Drugs: Guidance for Schools (Consultation) DCSF 2009**' produced by the DFES.

A drug is defined as any substance which, when taken into the body, affects the chemical composition of the body and how the body functions. (See: appendix)

2. Drug education curriculum

Drug education within the school is mainly delivered as part of the PSHE programme. It also forms part of the statutory science curriculum.

The goal of drug and alcohol education is:

For pupils to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, promote responsibility towards the use of drugs and relate these to their own actions, both now and in their future lives.

The learning objectives for drug and alcohol education include:

Attitudes and Values.

- to examine own opinions and values, and those of others
- to promote a positive attitude to healthy lifestyles and keeping self safe
- to enhance self awareness and self esteem
- to value and respect self and others
- to value diversity and difference within society
- to promote a sense of responsibility towards the use of drugs

Personal and Social Skills

- to identify risks to health
- to communicate with peers and adults, including parents/carers and professionals

- to learn how to give and secure help
- to develop decision-making, negotiation and assertiveness, particularly in situations related to drug use
- to develop an appreciation of the consequences of choices made
- to be able to cope with peer influences, and in resisting unhelpful pressures from adults and the media
- to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice
- to be able to talk, listen and think about feelings and relationships
- to develop critical thinking as part of decision-making

Knowledge and Understanding

- to develop an understanding of drugs and of the effects and risks of using drugs
- to gain an understanding of how the body functions
- to gain an understanding of what is safe and appropriate drug use
- to gain an understanding of the role of drugs in society and the laws and rules relating to their use
- to gain knowledge of people who can help if pupils have worries and an understanding of confidentiality
- to gain an understanding of the changing nature of relationships, including families and friends, and ways of dealing positively with change.

The organisation of the drug education curriculum.

The PSHE Coordinator and the Healthy School's coordinator are responsible for ensuring that drug education will be part of the curriculum. In our school we deliver PSHE through coordinated cross-curricular teaching.

In Year 6 we welcome the involvement of the School Liaison Officer from Druglink to teach children more explicitly about the dangers of drug use and to increase their awareness before leaving to go to secondary school.

3. Confidentiality and child protection

Confidentiality is an important consideration with respect to drugs and the boundaries of confidentiality will be made clear to pupils. Teachers cannot and should not promise total confidentiality.

Relevant examples include a disclosure of problematic substance misuse in the family home. Where there is disclosure of illegal substance use by a pupil, parents will be informed in all but the most exceptional circumstances.

4. Drug related situations

A drug related situation is one where there is suspicion, disclosure or observation of the use of unauthorised drugs or the discovery of unauthorised drugs.

The following will guide staff's response to an incident of drug or alcohol misuse.

- Initial response and investigation;
- Inform senior colleague – who will guide investigation, ensure written record is made and decide about any disposal;
- Consider responses, including whether to contact police – including possible disposal and further searching;
- Contact parents / carers;
- Consider contacting chair of governors, LEA and other support services;
- Consider sanctions / support needs of pupil(s) involved;
- Draw up and implement action plan.

Any tobacco, alcohol, solvents or illegal substances found on pupils will be confiscated. If necessary a pupil will be asked to turn out their own pockets or bags, with another member of staff present. A personal search can only be carried out by police officer or parent / carer.

Substance misuse at school is a serious matter. If a pupil is discovered with tobacco, alcohol, solvents or illegal drugs, then a fixed period exclusion will be a consideration. More serious disciplinary consequences will be considered, together with support needs and child protection, dependent upon individual circumstances.

The school has the powers, with police assistance if necessary, to remove anyone from the site who is causing a nuisance or disturbance. This includes being intoxicated. The safety of pupils during the journey to and from school is important. If staff have concerns about the safety of a pupil due to parent / carer intoxication then discussion will be held with the adult and consideration given to moving the pupil to a safer environment and / or alternative means of travel home.

5. Health and Safety and medicines

Please see Health and Safety Policy for additional information.

The safety of the individual and of all others on the school site are the most important concern if a pupil, visitor or member of staff is thought to be under the influence of any drug or substance which adversely affects their judgement. Responding consistently within our stated Health and Safety procedures, including, where necessary, the administration of first aid, is the priority.

Should any drug related paraphernalia be discovered on the school site, most will be handled within existing health & safety procedures using safety equipment such as disposable gloves, and will be bagged up and disposed of in an appropriate manner.. A written record will be kept of suspicious paraphernalia. Pupils will be advised to not touch suspect items, such as discarded injecting equipment, but report the matter to a member of staff. The member of staff will ensure safety is maintained, until appropriate disposal of the item(s) is undertaken.

The approach to access and administration of medicines is set out in the school's Medicines Policy. The principles underlying this are to:

- Recognise individual medical needs and promote inclusion to provide an education for all pupils, supporting their medical needs.
- Undertake to contact parents/carers if a pupil is ill during the school day.

The school provides for the safe and secure storage of medicines:

- All adults are responsible for the secure storage of their own medication
- Deanna Sharman, Senior First Aid Officer is the member of staff responsible for the secure storage of pupils' (prescribed) medication, both at school and on school visits
- There are first aid kits on the school site, in an accessible place known to staff.

Staff only administer medicines if written parental consent has been provided and agreed to by the school and the member of staff. This may involve additional training for members of staff involved in offering assistance, which may include assistance with medical aids (e.g. hearing aids).

Emergency aid

Summoning medical help such as the qualified first aider, or an ambulance is crucial, but in the interim period emergency aid should be applied as follows:

- Move the child or young person as little as possible
- Put into the recovery position
- Ensure the mouth is open and unobstructed
- Keep them warm and quiet
- Monitor breathing, start artificial respiration if breathing stops or become shallow
- Apply chest compression if there is no heart beat

If staff have any suspicions that a pupil is intoxicated from inhaling a volatile substance, care should be taken to not chase or overexcite the pupil. Strenuous activity for volatile substance misusers can increase the risk of sudden death. The pupil should be kept calm until the effects have worn off.

8. Implementation, monitoring and review

Implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the Head and Governors. Verbal feedback will include evaluative feedback from pupils, as well as teaching and support staff.

Opportunities will be made to inform parents about their children's drug education and about wider support and concerns about drugs in collaboration with Druglink.

Date of policy: November 2015

Date of next review of policy (*within 3 years*):