

# Slaithwaite CE J & I School



## Drugs Policy

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## **Responsibility for the policy and its implementation**

The Head teacher takes overall responsibility for this policy and its implementation in the school. This responsibility includes liaison with the governing Body, the parents and the LEA and other appropriate outside agencies.

### **Responsibilities include:**

- Policy development and review
- Monitoring and assessing effectiveness of policy
- Coordinating the drug education programme
- Managing drug related incidents
- Ensuring that the health, welfare and well-being of pupils with drug related issues is addressed in an appropriate and sensitive manner

## **The schools stance towards drugs, health and the needs of pupils**

Drug use is a matter that concerns the whole community e.g. the reality is, that we live in a drug orientated society where drug use has become commonplace. Drugs are used, legally and illegally, in both a social context, for example tobacco and alcohol, and in a medical context as prescribed and non-prescription drugs.

Unauthorised drugs have no place in the school community and our first concern in managing drugs is to safeguard health.

The school recognises that drug use is a fact of life and an issue that all young people will face as they grow up. Education has an important role in ensuring that young people have all the necessary knowledge and skills to make informed and health choices regarding their drug use, both now and in the future.

Drug education should enable pupils to develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, relating this to their own and others actions.

## **Drug education should:**

- Provide accurate information
- Build on knowledge and understanding
- Explore attitudes and values towards drugs, drug use and drug users
- Develop understanding about rules and laws
- Develop interpersonal skills
- Develop self-awareness and self-esteem
- Explore risks and consequences
- Be relevant to the needs of the pupils and the school community

(adapted from draft version of *Drugs: Guidance for Schools*)

Pupils in Years 5 and 6 follow the LA 'Spiced' drug programme. This is delivered by their class teacher (who has attended training) and outside agencies such as school nurse and local police officer.

Younger children are taught through the PSHE programme and also experience workshops and support from outside agencies e.g. Kevin Puppet show.

## **Training and support for staff**

Training needs differ according to role but all staff have access to this policy and the co-ordinator.

## **Assessing, monitoring and evaluating drug education**

This is done through staff meetings and regular discussion with pupils.

## **Management of drugs at school**

- Any substance which is questionable should be reported to the Head teacher immediately.
- Pupils/persons with serious concerns are referred to the Kirklees School Drug Scheme.
- It is the responsibility of all staff to deal with drug related issues. Appropriate responses to incidents can be found in the National Guidance or the Kirklees School drug Referral Scheme.
- The decision to involve the police rests with the school.

- The process for involving parents/carers in any drug related incident will be determined by the Head. Parents/carers are encouraged to approach the school to discuss issues or concerns.
- All issues in this matter or related to it will be dealt with in total confidentiality by the Head.

The Head teacher will be responsible for any contact with the media. No member of staff should speak to the media about drug related matters.

**Reviewed: September 2018**

**Full Review: September 2019**