

Edale Rise Primary and Nursery School

Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Policy



The school Drugs Co-ordinator is Komal Khan.

Their responsibilities are:

- overall charge of the process which forms and reviews the Drugs Policy
- Responsibility for implementing monitoring systems
- Responsibility for ensuring evaluation takes place and informs policy review
- Ensuring co-ordination and coherence of drugs education and the management of drug related incidents
- Co-ordinating planned action to manage medicines in school
- Initiating or co-ordinating responses to any unplanned situation involving drugs
- Co-ordinating links with external agencies
- Cross-phase liaison with other primary or secondary schools.
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Overall responsibility for the implementation of this policy lies with the Head Teacher.

Development Process: Partnership and consultation

The policy was developed in liaison with the Governing Body, staff, parents and children. It is part of our accredited status as a DrugAware School.

Location and Dissemination:

This policy will be reviewed every two years. Hard copies of this policy are available from the School Office. It is also available to view on our school website on www.edale-rise.nottingham.sch.uk

Local and National Guidance:

This policy was written using the DfE Guidance 'Drugs Advice for Schools 2012', Supporting pupils with medical needs, Drugs and school exclusions - conference report and the DrugAware Standard. It takes account of the local data available in relation to drug use and issues. We have chosen to use the guidelines for good practice set down by the Drugaware Standard, QCA and Ofsted.

The purpose of the policy:

This policy is intended to clarify:-

- A definition of drugs
- The physical and professional boundaries of the policy
- the content and delivery of drugs education
- what happens in relation to drug related incidents
- support for the school, the curriculum, pupils and staff in relation to drugs issues.

Reviewed and agreed by Governing body and staff: Autumn 2021

Review date: Autumn 2023

The policy applies throughout the school, defined as all areas, indoors and outdoors, within the school boundary fence and directly at the school gates.

It is applied during hours of 8.00 and 6.00, to all members of the school community and to visitors.

It also applies on school trips and residential visits.

Our definition of Drugs:

This policy encompasses all legal drugs (including alcohol and tobacco), all illegal drugs, volatile substances (solvents and gases) and unauthorised over the counter medicines and any substance misused for intoxication.

The school's stance towards drugs:

We believe that drug misuse inhibits the potential and life chances of young people, threatens their physical and emotional health, safety and liberty.

This school is committed to a healthy environment in which neither the misuse of drugs (including tobacco and alcohol) by pupils, staff or visitors, nor the illegal supply of these substances is condoned. The school accepts that drug issues may impact on young people in a number of ways, through their own misuse or within the family group. The most vulnerable pupils and families may be at most risk of drug misuse; it is important to keep a view of the whole picture of a pupil's circumstances in order to ensure the best outcome for each individual, balancing adequate drug education with clear boundaries, sanctions and support. We know that labelling people as drug users and excluding them from society puts them at increased risk of escalating drug use. We aim to encourage and retain the inclusion of those most vulnerable wherever possible in order to deliver the most effective interventions for that young person. We will work in partnership with external agencies and settings to achieve this where appropriate.

Drug education: Aims, Methodology and Resources:**Drug Education:**

Drug Education forms part of the statutory order for National Curriculum Science and will also be provided in the broader context of PSHE. We ensure that opportunities are secured across the curriculum for drugs education and a broad range of up to date resources are available to support this. We base our programme on the needs of young people, gathering information through surveys, discussion and research of local data.

We endeavour to deliver a minimum entitlement of:

12 hours at KS2
5 hours at KS1

All KS1 and 2 pupils have a weekly timetabled session of PSHE. Foundation Stage children are taught via the PSED strand of the EYFS document. Pupils also follow the SCARF curriculum by Coram Education which covers all aspects from alcohol, smoking, medicines and other drugs.

Through the curriculum and a supportive school ethos, we aim to:

- provide accurate information about drugs, including medicines (over the counter and prescribed), volatile substances, alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs
- increase children's understanding about the implications and possible consequences of drug use and misuse
- raise awareness of safety issues with regard to drugs
- explore and clarify attitudes towards drug use and misuse
- develop the skills necessary to make informed decisions
- identify sources of personal support
- understand that some people need medication as part of their everyday life and that this is normal for them and that misusing medicine is dangerous.
- enable children to find ways to enhance and maintain high self-esteem, as this may support them in making choices about their health.
- become aware of peer pressure.

In order to make learning accessible to all we use a range of teaching and learning styles including an emphasis on active and investigative learning. Our Equal Opportunities Policy lists other measures taken to include all learners.

Our principal resources include:

The Primary Drug Education Scheme (Jed and Ted) can be found on the Public Domain in the PSHE folder.

Coram Education- Online planning tool. Staff have a login to Access SCARF (Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience, and Friendship) under the 'keeping safe' section staff can use lesson plans to deliver the drug-aware scheme.

Support from visitors:

Our programme is supported by the School Nurse/ external agencies /visiting theatre companies as appropriate. We recognise that their contribution alone does not constitute a complete planned programme. We will ensure that suitable preparation and follow up activities are planned to embed the visit into our planned scheme.

Staff support and training:

Staff will have any training they may require to implement this policy and to deliver Drugs Education.

Management of drugs at school:

Medicines:

Information about individual children's health is obtained from parents or carers on admission and recorded on a form stored within the child's personal records in the School Office. Parents are requested to keep the school informed of any changes to a child's health.

The school's position on administration of medicines is stated in the Health and Safety and Asthma Policies.

Medication is stored in the School Office or First Aid room, with the exception of inhalers and spacers, which are kept in classrooms.

There is no legal duty which requires teachers to administer medication; this is a voluntary role and will only be called upon in exceptional circumstances. Where exceptional circumstances exist, a healthcare plan will be agreed and recorded between the school and the parent or carer. Where necessary, staff will receive training on specific medical conditions, for example, administering the EpiPen.

In this school, First Aiders, under the direction of the Head Teacher, are responsible for administering medication, its safe storage and keeping of appropriate records.

All staff are responsible for administering inhalers in an emergency. Other than an inhaler, no pupil should be in possession of medication at any time. All necessary medication is stored.

Other drugs:

We aim to ensure that the school premises are safe and have identified safety procedures in the event that a syringe or needle or other drug-using equipment are found discarded in the school premises. Guidance for staff on dealing with such incidents may be found in the staff Handbook.

Smoking:

A No-Smoking Policy has been developed and accepted by staff and Governors. The policy states that smoking is prohibited on any part of the school premises. This is in line with City Council policy.

Alcohol:

Alcohol is prohibited in school during school hours.

Volatile substances:

As part of the school's Health and Safety policy no misusable solvent or aerosol / gas propellant based products are allowed in school. In exceptional circumstances, for example in marking the playground for a specific activity, products will be stored securely and handled only by staff.

Searches:

Schools' general power to discipline, as set out in Section 91 of the Education Inspections Act 2006, enables a member of staff to confiscate, retain or dispose of a pupil's property as a disciplinary penalty, where reasonable to do so. Were the person finds other substances which are not believed to be controlled drugs, these can be confiscated where a teacher

believes them to be harmful or detrimental to good order and discipline. This may include psychoactive substances of 'legal highs'. If staff are unable to identify the legal status of a drug, it should be treated as a controlled drug.

The school reserves the right to search a pupil if we suspect that he or she is carrying drugs. The school is not required to inform parents, or seek their consent, before a search takes place.

Incidents:

If there is a drug related incident, the school will consider each incident individually, recognising that a variety of responses will be necessary to manage such incidents. We will consider the implications of actions taken and will seek to balance the interests of the persons involved with other school members and the local community. Sanctions will be consistent with existing school rules relating to behaviour, discipline, equal opportunities and exclusions and will reflect the severity of the incident. After immediate medical needs have been addressed, the nature and circumstances of any incident will be established and assessment made of the needs of the pupils involved. We recognise that any pupil misusing drugs may be in need of support via school or from an appropriate outside agency for an extended period of time.

Please note that under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971:

'It is an offence for the occupier or someone concerned in the management of any premises knowingly to permit or suffer on those premises the smoking of cannabis, or the production, attempted production, supply, attempted supply, or offering to supply of any controlled drug.' (See appendix 'The Misuse of Drugs Act - 1971')

This policy is available to parents on the school website or on paper copies from the Office.

If young people are under the influence of drugs in school we will ensure their safety and undertake any emergency measures before any further action is taken. If pupils become violent or threatening, the school will remove the child from any situation where he or she may be a danger to others and allowed to calm down in a quiet and calm environment. If necessary, the Emergency Services will be called.

Police involvement:

If parents are under the influence of drugs in school, they will be asked to leave the premises. The Police will be involved under the following circumstances:

- If an illegal drug is implicated / suspected.
- If drugs need to be identified and disposed of.
- If advice is needed about best outcome for pupil (name will initially be withheld)

However, the school is an investigating agency and reserves the right to deal with minor incidents internally if this will ensure an effective outcome. This is done with the support of police and further detail can be found in the Nottinghamshire Police/LA Drug issues protocol for schools.

The school will involve parents unless there is a specific reason not to.

Support for staff and pupils:

The needs of pupils:

The following internal structures are in place to support pupils with concerns about drugs:

- One to one sessions with the Learning Mentor or the 'Think Children' counsellor
- School Nurse

We also have partnership arrangements with the following agencies:

- School Nurse
- Health Visitors
- Outreach teams, including Educational Psychologist and Behaviour Support Team
- Police
- DrugAware / Lifeline

Confidentiality and Information Sharing:

Although it is important to maintain confidentiality during the handling of any incident or disclosure, pupils must be made aware that complete confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. This will help in retaining the trust of pupils and parents/carers and will ensure that the sharing of appropriate information is kept to a minimum. It is our policy to involve parents at the earliest opportunity, unless there are compelling reasons (involving the safety of the child) not to do so.

There are some mechanisms within the school, such as the School Nurse, who may be able to grant a greater degree of confidentiality to pupils.

Parental consent:

We aim to consult parents on access to drug agencies or other support through school. We keep parents informed when a young person is referred for support, unless there is a reason not to do so (for example, parents preventing the child from being helped)

Note: Agencies and personnel will always encourage young people to inform and get support from parents and trusted adults. If there are concerns about a child's safety or welfare, information will always be shared.

Involvement of parents/carers:

We seek to involve parents/carers in drugs policy and education through the following mechanisms:

- Life Education bus sessions
- The Drug-aware programme, which encourages parents to become involved in the review of this policy
- Informing of our policy on the website
- Drop in sessions with, or referrals to, the School Nurse if appropriate
- Involvement in the formulation and review of this policy

The role of Governors:

Governors will be kept up to date with policy and programme issues through the named Governor role. The named Governor is involved in the implementation and review of this policy. The Governing Body reviews this policy every two years

Liaison with other schools:

We will ensure that relevant information is shared in transition of pupils to ensure that they are well supported at this time.