

Rothersthorpe CE Primary School



Drugs Education Policy

We are a happy, friendly and caring school providing a unique environment that fully embraces our school family, village and church; a place where a range of people and groups gather in the pleasure of learning and growing together.

The ethos of our school is to help all children to develop respect for themselves and each other, to become increasingly responsible for their own actions and to be aware of and sensitive to the needs of others. Besides a respect for persons, all members of the school community are encouraged to share a respect for property, to have a strong sense of right and wrong and to have a caring attitude for the world in which we live. The curriculum we offer is not merely academic, but embraces the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all pupils.

This policy reflects the mission statement of Rothersthorpe CE Primary School together with the National Curriculum requirements and the statutory changes. The aim of this policy is to ensure all children in our care are aware of the importance of a healthy attitude towards Drugs Education.

Introduction

We recognise the increasing drug use in society. The acquisition of knowledge, understanding and skills which enable young people to consider the effects of drugs on themselves and others is therefore of vital importance.

The term 'drug', throughout this document, includes medicines as well as tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, solvents, glues and new psychoactive substances such as legal highs. We recognise the importance of exploring the beneficial use of drugs as medicines as well as the harmful effects of drug misuse.

This policy document takes account of DfES 2004 guidance to schools about drugs; Ofsted Guidance 2005, National Guidance (DfE and ACPO Drug Advice for Schools 2012); HM Government Drug Strategy 2010; The Healthy Schools Programme; guidance from the LA; SCODA assessment framework; DfES Searching, Screening and Confiscation July 2015.

Aims and Objectives

This school believes that the essential aim of Drugs Education should be to give pupils the facts, (appropriate to their age and level of understanding), to emphasise the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and to give children and young people the knowledge and skills to make informed and responsible choices now and in later life.

We have prioritised the following objectives:

- To promote pupils' self-esteem and confidence.
- To give accurate information about drugs.
- To consider and/or challenge attitudes pupils may have regarding drug use/misuse.
- To provide opportunities for pupils to be equipped with, and practice the skills they need to ensure personal safety and avoid the misuse of drugs.
- To help pupils to distinguish different drugs, consider their use, misuse benefits and harm.

Management and Co-ordination

The PSHE Co-ordinator will ensure that:

- The Drug Education Policy is disseminated to all members of the school community and is thoroughly discussed and understood.
- Clear roles and responsibilities for policy implementation are identified.
- The underpinning aims and values of and attitudes towards Drug Education are made explicit.
- The development of good relationships is promoted within and beyond the school.
- The equality of opportunity is promoted.
- Provision is made for ongoing professional development within the field of drugs awareness and drug education.

Class teachers will be responsible for delivering Drugs Education programmes and for developing lessons which will include clearly identified learning outcomes. The responsibility for the provision of Drugs Education is held by the Headteacher and Safeguarding Governor.

Curriculum Organisation and Planning

Drugs Education will be delivered in this School through a combination of planned curriculum opportunities and whole school approaches. This will take the form of:

- Discrete curriculum time by identifying Drugs Education within the planned curriculum for all pupils especially in Science and PSHE. This also includes specific lessons from the Life Education Caravan once a year.
- Through and in other curriculum areas by identifying and planning for opportunities within other curriculum areas especially within Science and PSHE.
- Through activities, school events and ethos by involvement in the National Healthy Schools Standard, pupils listening and supporting each other, the taking of responsibility, good relationships, positive behaviour, challenging stereo-types, being aware of the language we use, the use of support and guidance systems.

Curriculum Delivery

Teaching about Drugs is generally best provided as part of an integrated programme of Personal, Social and Health Education across the key stages. This programme is relevant to the needs and experiences of all pupils, is flexible, and develops, as pupils grow older. The programme is developed within a positive climate in which pupils and adults feel able to talk openly and honestly.

In order to effectively cover all aspects of drug education, a wide range of teaching and learning styles will need to be employed.

Resources

Resources that support this area of the curriculum will be up-to date, relevant to pupils and presented in ways that are consistent with the fundamental aims of PSHE. Overall responsibility for Drug Education resources is held by the PSHE Co-ordinator. Resources supporting Drug Education will be stored with other PSHE resources.

External Agencies and Services

The school values and encourages the involvement of external agencies and services such as 'The Life Education Caravan' in supporting the delivery of this area of the curriculum. Where outside speakers are to be involved their contribution will be properly planned as part of the overall programme. Their contribution will complement other teaching and be appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils involved. Class teachers will always be involved so they can deal with questions and concerns.

SEND and Equality

In accordance with School and LA policy, a commitment to Equal Opportunities will be built into all aspects of Drug Education. We recognise that some pupils with learning difficulties may need more help than others in understanding what sorts of behaviour are/are not acceptable. Where pupils are taking prescribed medication they will be helped to distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate drugs. These elements will be ensured by provision for SEND pupils, resources used, explicit teaching about discrimination and stereotyping, promoting respect for others and a positive school ethos.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

Provision for Drug Education, including the personal development of pupils, will be monitored, evaluated and reviewed by the PSHE and Citizenship Co-Ordinator, Headteacher and Safeguarding Governor.

Managing Drug Related Incidents

We recognise that drug related incidents in primary schools are rare, but recognise the need for clear procedures should an incident occur. Procedures for the administration of prescribed drugs are set out in the School's 'Administering Medication Policy'.

In the event that School staff discover a child with an identified drug or an unidentified drug on the school site, within the school boundaries or whilst on a school trip or visit, the Headteacher should be informed immediately. Discussions will be held within the school, parents/carers will be informed and if appropriate the School's Police Community Support Officer, (PCSO).

On discovery of any legal drugs such as medicines, alcohol, tobacco, cigarette papers, high caffeine-content drinks (eg Red Bull), these will be stored in a secure place and arrangements made for parents/carers to collect them.

On discovery of any illegal drugs; psychoactive substances such as legal highs; any unidentified substances, (if a drug cannot be identified it will be treated as illegal); then these will be confiscated in the presence of a second adult witness. The sample will be sealed in a plastic bag with the date, time, names of witnesses and stored in a secure place. The Headteacher will contact the pupil's parents or carers, and/or the Schools' Police Community Support Officer, (PSCO). The confiscated items will then be handed over to the Police. Whilst the law does not require the school to divulge the name of the pupil from whom the drugs were taken, it is expected to cooperate fully with any police investigation.

If someone is suspected of having illegal or unauthorised drugs on them then every effort should be made to get them to hand them over voluntarily. If the pupil refuses, the Headteacher and staff authorised by them have the statutory power to search pupils or their possessions, without consent, where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil may have a prohibited items such as alcohol; illegal drugs; tobacco and cigarette papers; anything they have reasonable grounds for suspecting is a prohibited item; any substances where a teacher believes them to be harmful or detrimental. (See DfES Searching, Screening and Confiscation Advice, Reviewed July 2015).

Members of staff can use such force as is reasonable given the circumstances when conducting a search. (See School Behaviour & Discipline Policy and DfES Use of Reasonable Force– reviewed July 2015).

A record of any Drug related incidents, excluding medicines, will be kept in the Headteacher's office. All confirmed drug related incidents must be reported to the School's Education Welfare Officer as soon as possible, and within two weeks at the latest.

Pupil Discipline and Support

The Headteacher will be responsible for deciding how to discipline a pupil following any drug-related incidents. All factors influencing the incident will be taken into account and each incident will be dealt with on an individual basis. The advice of support services and agencies should be sought before decisions are made. Exclusion should not be an automatic response to a drug incident and permanent exclusion should only be used in serious cases.

School and parents, if appropriate, should then work together to support the child involved in seeking suitable help and guidance. (See School Behaviour & Discipline Policy, DfES Exclusion Guidance 2012 and sources of advice services listed at the end of this policy).

We will always inform parents if the police are called to an incident. As our primary concern is the welfare of all our pupils, alternative action may be taken. For example, if we feel that parents are directly involved in the situation causing concern or that they may seriously over-react and cause harm to the child, we may have to inform other appropriate safeguarding agencies.

In the event of concerns about an adult who appears to be under the influence of a substance within school boundaries or upon collecting a child, staff should attempt to maintain a calm atmosphere. If a member of staff has concerns about a child's safety these should be discussed with the parent/carer and if necessary arrangements made for another member of the family to take the child home. If it is felt that the child is placed at risk or the parent/carer becomes abusive or violent they should consider using its child protection/Safeguarding guidelines and/or the police.

Smoking Policy

This school is bound by the Northamptonshire County Council Smoking Policy and smoking is not permitted anywhere on the school part of the site. Our Village Hall has a designated area for smoking in their entrance porch. Any disregard for school restrictions on smoking will be treated as any other breach of school discipline.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed as part of the schools ongoing policy review cycle by the co-ordinator. This review will involve staff, pupils, parents and governors.

This policy was reviewed by Staff and Governors April 2016

Useful Organisations

Addaction is one of the UK's largest specialist drug and alcohol treatment charities. As well as adult services, they provide services specifically tailored to the needs of young people and their parents. The Skills for Life project supports young people with drug misusing parents.

Website: www.addaction.org.uk

ADFAM offers information to families of drug and alcohol users, and the website has a database of local family support services.

Tel: 020 7553 7640 Email: admin@adfam.org.uk Website: www.adfam.org.uk

Alcohol Concern works to reduce the incidence and costs of alcohol-related harm and to increase the range and quality of services available to people with alcohol-related problems

Tel: 020 7264 0510. Email: contact@alcoholconcern.org.uk Website: www.alcoholconcern.org.uk

ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) A campaigning public health charity aiming to reduce the health problems caused by tobacco.

Tel: 020 7739 5902 Email: enquiries@ash.org.uk Website: www.ash.org.uk

Children's Legal Centre operates a free and confidential legal advice and information service covering all aspects of law and policy affecting children and young people.

Tel: 01206 877910 Email: clc@essex.ac.uk Website: www.childrenslegalcentre.com

Children's Rights Alliance for England - A charity working to improve the lives and status of all children in England through the fullest implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Email: info@crae.org.uk Website: www.crae.org.uk

Drinkaware - An independent charity that promotes responsible drinking through innovative ways to challenge the national drinking culture, helping reduce alcohol misuse and minimise alcohol related harm.

Tel: 020 7307 7450 Website: www.drinkaware.co.uk/

Drinkline - A free and confidential helpline for anyone who is concerned about their own or someone else's drinking.

Tel: 0800 917 8282 (lines are open 24 hours a day)

Drug Education Forum – this website contains a number of useful papers and briefing sheets for use by practitioners:

Website: www.drugeducationforum.com/

DrugScope is a centre of expertise on illegal drugs, aiming to inform policy development and reduce drug-related risk. The website includes detailed drug information and access to the Information and Library Service. DrugScope also hosts the Drug Education Practitioners Forum.

Tel: 020 7520 7550 Email: info@drugscope.org.uk Website:

www.drugscope.org.uk

FRANK is the national drugs awareness campaign aiming to raise awareness amongst young people of the risks of illegal drugs, and to provide information and advice. It also provides support to parents/carers, helping to give them the skills and confidence to communicate with their children about drugs.

24 Hour Helpline: 0800 776600

Email: frank@talktofrank.com

Website: www.talktofrank.com

Mentor UK is a non-government organisation with a focus on protecting the health and wellbeing of children and young people to reduce the damage that drugs can do to their lives.

Tel: 020 7739 8494. Email admin@mentoruk.org

Website: www.mentoruk.org.uk

National Children's Bureau promotes the interests and well-being of all children and young people across every aspect of their lives.

Tel: 020 7843 6000 Website: www.ncb.org.uk

Family Lives - A charity offering support and information to anyone parenting a child or teenager. It runs a free-phone helpline and courses for parents, and develops innovative projects.

Tel: 0800 800 2222 Website: <http://familylives.org.uk/>

Re-Solv (Society for the Prevention of Solvent and Volatile Substance Abuse) A national charity providing information for teachers, other professionals, parents and young people.

Tel: 01785 817885 Information line: 01785 810762

Email: information@re-solv.org

Website: www.re-solv.org

Smokefree - NHS Smoking Helpline: 0800 169 0 169 Website:

<http://smokefree.nhs.uk>

Stars National Initiative offers support for anyone working with children, young people and families affected by parental drug and alcohol misuse.

Website: www.starsnationalinitiative.org.uk

Youth Offending Teams – Local Youth Offending Teams are multi-agency teams and are the responsibility of the local authority, who have a statutory duty to [prevent offending by young people under the age of 18.

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/youth-offending-team>