



DRUGS EDUCATION POLICY

Definition - What is a Drug

A drug is a substance that, when taken into the body, changes the way we feel, the way we see things and the way our body works.

This policy covers a range of drugs including medicines, tobacco, alcohol, solvents and illegal drugs.

Rationale

Current research indicates that drug use both legal and illegal has risen amongst young people. As part of the school's care and welfare of its pupils, we believe we have a duty to inform and educate young people about drug use. Drugs are a reality in young people's lives; schools share responsibility with parents and the community to educate pupils about the risks and consequences of drug use and misuse and to encourage them to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and practising skills. We also believe that the misuse of any drugs by members of the school community cannot be condoned and will be dealt with consistently and clearly with regard to the needs of the school and the individuals concerned.

Drug Education Aims to

- To give children accurate information about the role of drugs as medicines and their effect.
- To give children accurate information about the effects of alcohol consumption.
- To encourage responsible behaviour in relation to drug (including tobacco) and alcohol use and misuse.
- To know and understand simple safety rules about medicines, tablets, solvents and household substances.
- To promote positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles.
- To follow will be based on national guidelines provided by the DfE and will be sensitive to the age and experience of our pupils.
- Be delivered through the existing curriculum, mainly National Curriculum Science and Personal, Social, Health and Education.

Guidelines

- The Head teacher is responsible for dealing with drug policy and related incidents
- All pupils (at both Key Stages) will follow an integrated drug education programme, which is responsive to their needs and relevant to their age, experience and maturity. It will be delivered through the existing curriculum, mainly Science and Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education. It will focus on the development of self-esteem and decision making skills.
- All staff will be provided with adequate training and support to help them to deliver effective drug education and respond to situations with consistency and sensitivity, taking account of religious, social and cultural issues.
- There is a procedure for the management of drug-related incidents, agreed by staff and governors, of which all parents and pupils will be made aware.

- Parents will be kept informed and involved through newsletters, awareness-raising evenings and individual discussions when appropriate.
- The school will work with other agencies to provide relevant information and co-ordinated support.
- The school has a policy/procedure for the administration of medicines that must be followed for everyone's safety.

Management of drug-related incidents

The Head teacher will be responsible for co-ordinating the management of drug-related incidents, offering sources of support and liaising with outside agencies, including the media.

Procedures

Medicines:	The majority of medicines are kept with the School Business Manager and administered by her, a teaching assistant or the class teacher.
Tobacco:	Hawkesbury school is designated a No Smoking area.
Alcohol:	No alcohol will be consumed during the course of a normal school day.
Solvents:	Hawkesbury school will ensure that potentially harmful substances are stored safely, and pupils supervised carefully in the event of them having to be used in the course of their work. The use of aerosol deodorants are not allowed because of the potential risks to people with asthma or other bronchial problems.
Illegal Substances:	No illegal or illicit substances should be brought to school or used on school premises.

Sanctions, of appropriate severity, will be applied to the intentional misuse of any of the substances described above by any member of the school community on the school premises or while on school trips and visits.

To protect the health and safety of everyone in the school, regular checks will be made of the site to ensure that drug paraphernalia, particularly syringes, are cleared away.

Sanctions, up to and including permanent exclusions, will be applied for: -

- Possession of any drug with the suspected intention to misuse.
- Misuse of drugs on school premises.
- Supplying/dealing drugs for the purposes of misuse.

Disciplinary action will be taken against staff involved in any of the above.

Conclusion

The welfare of our pupils and staff is of paramount concern and we shall work together with everyone involved with the school to ensure the continued education and well being of all our children. All staff and parents will be made aware of the contents of this policy, the implication for them and the education and welfare of pupils.

This policy was written with guidance from South Gloucestershire LEA's *Drug Education and Substance Related Incidents: Advice and Guidance* document, issued January 1999 and National Healthy School Standard Drug Education (including alcohol and tobacco), 2003. For detailed information and guidance see the South Gloucestershire Well Being site where there is detailed drug guidance (2008).

Agreed at the SLIC 14th November 2011

Signed: Chair of SLIC

Review Date: Autumn 2015

Equalities Impact Assessment: Completed