



DRUG POLICY

Rationale

It is the aim of Four Lanes Community Junior School to help all pupils to be able to take their place safely in a world where a wide range of drugs exists. We recognise that some drugs have beneficial effects but also that every drug has potential to harm. For this reason, all drugs need appropriate and responsible care and management. In order to be able to make informed choices, staff and pupils need to understand the nature of drugs, their social and legal status, their uses and effects.

Aims

- To provide a safe, healthy environment in which pupils and staff can learn and develop.
- To ensure all members of the school community know and understand the rules of the school, the expectations about their behaviour, and the policy regarding drug incidents and concerns about individuals.
- To promote clarity about the management of drug related incidents in the school.
- To encourage and enable pupils to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle now and in the future.
- To enable pupils to make reasoned, informed choices.
- To minimise pupils' experimentation with illegal or harm causing substances including so-called 'legal highs' prohibited under The Psychoactive Substances Act of 2016.
- To address and take account of local community needs, including the differences and diversity within the school community.
- To support and engage parents/carers and pupils in their own personal learning and responsibilities.
- To work with HCC and outside agencies, including the voluntary sector, to secure and support a balanced delivery of a drugs education programme, e.g. School Drug Education Advisers, other schools, the Healthy Schools Programme, Health Promotion, Health Care professionals, Hampshire Police.

Objectives for Drug Education

- To provide opportunities for pupils to acquire knowledge and identify the distinction between authorised and unauthorised drugs.
- To develop and equip pupils with the knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to build their resilience and avoid peer group pressure or unwanted drug offers from others.
- To build pupils' decision-making skills and increased self-esteem.

Key roles and responsibilities

- Incidents will be dealt with after making an assessment of the situation and be reported to the Head Teacher. The Head Teacher is responsible for drug related issues within the school.

Inclusive definition of drugs

Four Lanes Community Junior School defines a drug as a substance which, when taken into the body, changes the way we feel, the way we perceive things and the way our body works. This definition includes illegal substances and also legal substances such as alcohol, tobacco, solvents and medicines.

Knowledge and Understanding

- Pupils are taught within the guidance of the National Curriculum Science programme of study and the guidance for PSHE and Citizenship and CRC. The main objective is:

To recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function

Pupils should learn how to keep their bodies healthy and how their bodies might be damaged – including how some drugs and other substances can be harmful to the human body.

Attitudes, Values and Skills

Pupils are taught:

- To value and trust in their own learning through positive reflections and development of assertiveness and coping skills.
- Confidence building and communication skills.
- About themselves and their achievements, seeing their mistakes, making positive changes and setting personal goals.
- To recognise risky behaviour and risk taking within different situations and be able to respond appropriately.
- That pressure to behave inappropriately or to take risks can come from a variety of sources, including their peers, other people they know, TV and the media.
- How to seek/ask for help and use basic techniques for resisting peer or unwanted pressure in order to minimise harm to themselves or others.
- That their actions affect themselves and others, to respect and care about other people's feelings, trying to see things from their point of view.
- That communication and problem solving skills are central to bringing about a positive change in attitudes and actions.

Content and delivery

In teaching drug education, teachers use a range of teaching strategies, including role-play, discussion group work, draw and write, debate and circle time. The use of circle time is a key strategy for developing life skills. Teaching will be based on an understanding that a variety of approaches should be used in order to meet the differing needs and learning styles of pupils. It is recognised that active or participatory learning styles can be particularly helpful in developing skills, knowledge and values.

Use of visitors and outside speakers

We use visitors such as the school nurse and ambulance service to support our planned teacher lead programme of education, in line with national and local guidance. The class teacher is always present when visitors are working with our pupils.

Cross-Curricular Links

Drug education has many cross-curricular links, with science making a particular contribution. However, the development of life skills and Emotional Intelligence are themes throughout the curriculum within the programme for Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and enshrined in the values which are embodied in the schools' ethos. They are also linked with the articles from the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC). There are links to other subjects too, such as geography and physical education, and aspects of school life.

Differentiation and Additional Educational Needs (AEN)

The needs of pupils with AEN will be taken into account by the teacher who may need to provide different resources, different activities or specific support to some pupils. Where pupils' Individual Education Plans (IEP) identify targets relating to their personal development, the teacher will ensure that opportunities are planned to support pupils in achieving these.

Staff Development

This school has an ongoing programme for professional development. Support and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities, for all school staff will be made available through training strategies provided by Hampshire Advisory Service and Healthy Schools.

Managing drug related incidents: routine arrangements

Medicines

The school has a policy/procedure for the administration of medicines that must be followed for everyone's safety. Our practice is in line with guidance as recommended by Hampshire County Council.

Alcohol

Pupils are not allowed to bring in alcohol on the school. Parents and visitors under the effects of alcohol will be asked to leave the premises and return at a later date for the safety of the whole school.

Tobacco

The school is a no smoking site - indoors and outdoors, including school vehicles - at all times. Pupils are not permitted to bring to school smoking materials including matches, lighters and electronic smoking devices. In the interests of health and safety, should a pupil be found in possession of any of these on school premises, they will be confiscated.

Solvents

The school will ensure that potentially hazardous substances are stored safely and pupils will be supervised if it necessary that they come into contact with them in the course of their work. Pupils are not permitted to be in possession of solvent based products.

Illegal drugs

No illegal drugs are permitted to be brought on to, or used on school premises.

Incidents

A drug related incident may include any of the following:

- A pupil who is suspected of being under the influence of a drug
- Finding drugs or related paraphernalia on school premises
- Possession of drugs by an individual on school premises – both accidental and deliberate
- Use of drugs by an individual on school premises

Links to other policies

See also the school's Behaviour Management policy, Anti-Bullying policy, PSHEE policy, Health & Safety policy, Supporting Children at School with Medical Conditions policy, Administration of Medicines policy.

Written: July 2019

Revised: June 2022