



HARTSBOURNE PRIMARY SCHOOL Drug Education Policy

Mission Statement: Valuing Potential, Creating Opportunities

This policy to be read in conjunction with Child Protection Policy, Behaviour Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy, PSHE Policy, Teaching and Learning Policy, SEN Policy, Science Policy.

DATE OF POLICY:	JANUARY 2018	DATE OF NEXT REVIEW:	JANUARY 2020
MONITORED BY:	SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM	PUPIL PROGRESS COMMITTEE	

VISION

Hartsbourne Primary School is an inclusive learning community where we are:
Building a strong school **community**; inspiring pupils to gain the **confidence**, resilience and independence to become **life-long learners**, making the best **progress** possible and creating happy memories.

RATIONALE

At Hartsbourne Primary School we recognise that educating children about the use and mis-use of drugs can enable them to become confident and independent members of their community, who make sensible and informed choices regarding their health and well-being. Alongside this we believe that educating children about peer pressure, the relationships between themselves and their friends and following their own 'moral compass' in decision making will equip them with the skills to make these sensible choices as they grow up.

We recognise that the term 'drugs' can include alcohol, tobacco, medicines, prescribed and illegal drugs.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The essential aim of drug 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 the knowledge and skills to make informed, responsible choices now and in later life. Our children will:

- Learn what the term 'drug' means and give accurate information.
- Learn about the different types of drug, and that not all of them are harmful or illegal.
- Learn about the effects, both helpful and harmful, that drugs can have on our bodies.
- Recognise the element of choice involved in taking drugs and link it to other work they have completed about making sensible choices.
- Understand that peer pressure can often be the cause of children using illegal drugs and learn the skills and strategies to avoid being influenced in this way.
- Speculate on the reasons why people over-use legal drugs (e.g. alcohol) or turn to illegal drugs.
- Recognise the addictive qualities that drugs can have and how that can be dangerous to our health and well-being.

TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES

Children will access education regarding drugs in two key areas of the curriculum: Science and PSHE.

Science

We believe that educating the children about drugs through the teaching of Science can allow them to understand what drugs are, what their purpose is and what effects they can have on our bodies.



In Key Stage One children will learn that:

- Sometimes we take medicines when we get ill, these help us to get better.
- Medicines are useful but are drugs not foods and can be dangerous.
- Some people need medicines to keep them alive and healthy.
- It's ok to ask questions about medicines and health.
- They should ask an appropriate adult before taking medicine.
- Household substances can be dangerous if swallowed.

In Key Stage Two children will revise and review what they have learned, and learn that:

- Substances like tobacco, alcohol and other drugs can affect the way the body functions and these effects can be harmful.
- Medicines are also drugs and affect the way the body functions, but the effects are usually beneficial though there may be (harmful) side effects.
- Medicines can be harmful if they are not taken according to instructions.
- Recognise hazards and risks in medicines and how to avoid these.
- Communicate information about the safe use of medicines.
- They have a responsibility to make sensible choices.

PSHE and Citizenship

We believe that educating the children about making sensible choices and not bowing to peer pressure through PSHE and Citizenship will give them the skills required to make healthy, informed choices as they grow up. The entire school follows the SEAL scheme of work which will allow the children to consolidate and extend their learning in these areas each year.

As part of our curriculum, over time children will learn:

- To recognise what they like and dislike, what is fair and unfair, and what is right and wrong.
- To recognise the different risks in different situations and then decide how to behave responsibly.
- That pressure to behave in an unacceptable or risky way can come from a variety of sources, including people they know.
- How to ask for help and use basic techniques for resisting pressure to do wrong.
- That their actions affect themselves and others (sometimes for a long time to come).

Drugs education may also be delivered to our children through dedicated assemblies, including visits from outside agencies such as the school nurse, police officers, theatre groups and drugs advisory officers.

Assessment

Assessment of drugs education will be completed through the assessment milestones related to Science and PSHE using a variety of techniques (eg quizzes, topic webs, mind maps, posters).

DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS

Any situation where drugs may possibly be involved will be treated seriously.

Each situation needs to be responded to individually as a variety of responses may be necessary. These responses may link to other policies such as Behaviour, Health and Safety or Child Protection.

The child should be informed to whom information is being passed on. Information concerning risk to pupils or other people should be passed on to the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher immediately so that parents, other appropriate adults and support services can be consulted. Parents should be informed as early as possible so that the school and parents can work together in supporting the child.



In responding to a situation, a balance needs to be found between the interests of the individual, other members of the school and the extended community. The safety and well being of the individual child is the main focus – not the drug.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All Schools have statutory duties to meet and state funded schools must offer a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school.

These duties are set out in the 2002 Education Act and the 2010 Academies Act. Schools have responsibilities in relation to promoting pupil wellbeing and pupil safeguarding. PSHE and science play an important part in fulfilling these responsibilities.

This policy also applies to school premises, day trips and residential visits.

The Head teacher will be responsible for deciding how to discipline a pupil following any drug related incidents and all factors influencing the incident will be considered. The Behaviour Policy will be used to consider sanctions or consequences if appropriate.

The Site manager will regularly conduct a visual check for drug related paraphernalia or equipment during Health & Safety walks and other safety checks. If drugs (or similarly abusive substances) are discovered on school premises the following steps should be taken:

- Obtain medical help if necessary. Keep any evidence of what has been taken, such as the substance itself, packing or vomit. (This includes adverse reactions to medicinal drugs).
- Take the substance from the child or location and place in a safe container. If at all possible a witness should be present. In all cases, a written statement should be made as soon as possible – this should be counter-signed by the witness, if present.
- Notify parents or guardians immediately.
- Inform the police (School's Liaison or Community Office) if it is considered appropriate and follow their advice.
- If longer term support is needed, develop an action plan to help the child in consultation with the parents and other relevant agencies including counseling services.

If a needle or syringe is discovered within the school grounds it must not be touched. Ask the Site Manager to cordon off the area and inform all staff of the location. Then the district council should be contacted. They will arrange for the offending items to be collected and disposed of safely.

Hertsmere – 020 8207 2277 (ask for Environmental Health)

Watford – 01923 235946 (Cleaving Department)

Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the school site. Any disregard for this restriction will be treated as a breach of school discipline.