Approved: May 2024

The Federation of Liphook Infant School and Liphook CofE Junior School

Drug Policy

INTRODUCTION

At The Federation of Liphook Infant School and Liphook CofE Junior School we believe that every child has a right to be safe and healthy. Through PSHE and the Science Curriculum, the school plays an important role in supporting and promoting attitudes, practices and understanding. This enables children to make informed decisions and encourages them to choose a healthy lifestyle.

Drug use and misuse have become increasingly common in our society. Children and young people of school age are part of society and as such the school recognises the need to prepare and equip pupils for life in a drug using society. We aim to equip them with the skill required to deal with situations and incidents which may occur in their lives.

We therefore strive to create an atmosphere in which the child feels safe and able to discuss problems and concerns whilst developing an understanding of drugs and their use and misuse.

DEFINITIONS

Drug : A drug is any substance which, when introduced into the body, creates a change in perception and/or mood and/or how the body functions.
"Drugs" are taken here to mean those that are legal (such as over the counter and prescribed drugs, alcohol, tobacco and solvents) and illegal drugs (such as cannabis, ecstasy, amphetamine, heroin, cocaine. This includes substances within The Psychoactive Substances Act 2016.

Drug use : the consumption of any drug
All drug use, including medicinal use, carries the potential for harm.

Drug misuse : drug taking through which harm may occur

Drug abuse : drug taking which harms health or functioning

Section 1	DRUG EDUCATION

AIMS OF THE POLICY

The overall aim of drug education in the school is to equip pupils with the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes to enable them to be in a position to make informed, healthy choices and decisions and to prevent or reduce the harmful consequences of drug misuse.

OBJECTIVES / PUPIL LEARNING OUTCOMES

- To provide accurate information about drugs and the law relating to them
- To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse of drugs
- To provide opportunities to examine attitudes and values towards drug use
- To promote the development of personal and social skills relating to health and behaviour and the opportunity to practise them
- To enable young people to identify appropriate adults and organisations to approach for help.

IMPLEMENTATION

The school provides a planned drug education curriculum through the following:

- Children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 will be taught that they should not put anything on or in their bodies that they have not been given by a responsible adult.
- At Key Stage 2 children will be taught that tobacco, alcohol and other drugs can have harmful effects.
- Drug education is provided within a programme of PSHE where wider issues of promoting health, positive behaviour and social responsibility can be addressed and where prevention of drug misuse is just one component.
- In keeping with the school's approach to PSHE a variety of teaching and learning methods are used as appropriate to the topic and needs of the pupils (eg thought showering, group discussion, role play, card sorts).
- Opportunities for drug and alcohol education also exist within the English Curriculum, School Assemblies and special events in school eg. visiting speakers, drama productions and health week.
- On the whole, it will be teachers who will teach drug education, but where appropriate, outside visitors may make a contribution (eg the Schools Police Liaison Officer or staff from Coram Education). If visitors are used, the teacher must stay with the class and visitors' contributions will be evaluated.
- Teachers will have access to ongoing advice, support and training to enable them to provide accurate information about drugs.

MONITORING

- The PSHE co-ordinator will monitor delivery of the programme through observation and discussion with teaching staff to ensure consistent and coherent curriculum provision.
- Assessment of pupil learning objectives and outcomes.
- Discussion with pupils.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

The school believes that it is important to have the support of parents/carers and the wider community for the drug education programme.

- Parents will be given the opportunity to find out and discuss the school's programme through newsletters and topic grids.
- Health Promotion Specialists will be invited to school to run parent/carer awareness sessions so that they can support the key messages given to their children at school.
- Staff will respond to any issues or questions that parents may raise about their child's drug education.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND CHILD PROTECTION

It must be made clear to pupils that teachers cannot promise total confidentiality. If a pupil discloses information which is sensitive and which the pupil asks not to be passed on, the request should be honoured unless this is unavoidable in order for teachers to fulfil their responsibilities in relation to:

- Child protection
- Co-operating with a police investigation
- Referral to external agencies
- Where a life is in danger

Section 2	MANAGING DRUG RELATED ISSUES IN SCHOOL

- "In school" is taken to mean on school premises, including buildings and grounds. The school policy also applies to off-site activities, visits and school trips. The policy will also relate to children's use of the premises and grounds beyond the school day.
- All staff must be alert to the warning signs which may indicate that a pupil is misusing drugs.
- All drug related issues will always be referred to the Executive Head teacher. Any such incidents should be dealt with confidentially and logged by the Executive Head teacher accordingly.
- It is recognised that incidents involving drugs may be symptomatic of other problems and difficulties in the pupil's life and all incidents of this nature will be handled sensitively and result in supportive outcomes for the needs of the individual.
- The school will seek to work in partnership with parents, outside agencies and appropriate authorities.
- The expectation of the school is that no pupil or adult will come onto the school site under the influence of or in possession of drugs (except for prescribed medicines). The procedures below will be followed in instances where this is not the case. The Executive Head teacher should always be informed.

PROCEDURES

Tobacco

- The school always operates a no smoking and no vaping policy throughout the building and grounds.
- This policy applies to pupils, employees, parents and visitors.
- Staff who wish to smoke, must leave school grounds to smoke and must be out of sight of children.
- Tobacco brought to school by pupils will be confiscated and the pupil's parents will be informed.
- Health Education work in school will promote the view that tobacco is a drug and hazardous to health.

Alcohol

- The possession and use of alcohol on school premises during the working day is prohibited for all members of the school community.
- The Executive Head teacher must be consulted and permission obtained before arranging any functions at which alcohol may be consumed.
- Should a pupil be found intoxicated at school he/she will be removed to a quiet room and be accompanied by a member of staff/ first aider at all times. The Executive Head teacher will be informed. All appropriate steps will then be taken to ensure their safe removal from the premises. This will usually be done by informing parents/ carers, but the police or ambulance service will be involved if necessary. The incident will be recorded by the Executive Head teacher.
- Health education work in the school will promote the view that alcohol is a drug and can be hazardous to health.
- Should a member of staff be found to be intoxicated, they will be sent home by taxi.

Solvents

- The school recognises that many ordinary substances lend themselves to misuse and therefore need to be carefully stored and managed. *(Ref Health and Safety Policy & COSHH regulation relating to secure storage of solvent substances)*
- Should a pupil be found under the influence of solvent intoxication at the school immediate medical attention will be sought and, if possible, a sample of the substance will be made available to the medical authorities. The pupil's parents/ carers will be informed and asked to remove the pupil from the premises once medical attention has been given.
- Solvents brought to school by pupils which are suspected to be for abuse purposes will be confiscated, parents/carers informed and asked to collect them.
- Health education work in school will promote the view that solvent abuse is very hazardous to health.

Controlled drugs

- Drugs found at the school will be secured in a box and labelled with the date, time, place of discovery, signature of the finder and locked in a cupboard in the school office. Details of the find will be kept by the Executive Head teacher and the police will be informed.
- Drugs which are suspected to be for abuse purposes will be confiscated, locked in the office and the pupil's parents/carers will be informed.
- Drug taking equipment will be dealt with in the same way. The police will be informed.
- Should a pupil be found to be under the influence of drug abuse at school, immediate medical attention will be sought and, if possible, a sample of the substance will be made available to the medical authorities. The police will be informed immediately. The child's parents/carers will be informed and asked to remove the child from the premises once medical attention and police permission have been given.
- In cases where a pupil or other person is found to be supplying or offering to supply controlled drugs the police will be informed immediately.
- Health Education work in school will promote the view that drug abuse is very hazardous to health.
- Staff or other persons on the school site believed to be under the influence of drugs will be requested to leave by the Executive Head teacher. If necessary the relevant authorities will be informed.

Searching

- Where the Executive Head teacher or a member of staff suspects that a pupil's tray or bag contains unlawful items, a search will be conducted.
- If it is suspected that a pupil has an unlawful substance on their person, they will be requested to voluntarily produce any unlawful substances. A witness should be present.
- Staff should not undertake any intimate physical searches.
- If it is absolutely necessary to search a child, a police officer will be required and parents/carers must be informed as soon as possible.

Disposal of needles and syringes

- If needles and syringes are found on school property they need careful handling.
- Pupils will be reminded regularly of the routine should they discover these items – do not touch, tell a member of staff.
- Authorised members of staff should wear protective gloves and place the items in a box. The box should then be taken to a needle disposal centre as soon as possible.
- The Site Manager will monitor the school grounds as a matter of routine.
- All finds will be reported to the Executive Head teacher and recorded in an incident book.

Disclosure

- A pupil may disclose to a member of staff that she/he has been using drugs or is concerned about someone else's drug use.
- Concern for the pupil's welfare will be paramount but teachers will not be able to promise complete confidentiality and should make this known to any pupil seeking such an assurance.
- The Executive Head teacher will be informed of disclosures relating to drugs by the member of staff to whom the disclosure was made.

Suspicion/hearsay

- Any hearsay/rumour about pupil drug use will be carefully evaluated in the light of the school's own knowledge about the pupil and sensitively investigated before any possible action is taken.
- If staff believe the rumour to be unfounded steps will be taken to challenge the rumour and its effects.
- If the rumour is found to be true, the same procedures will be taken as outlined in the previous sections for disclosure of drug use.

Medication – Over the counter and prescribed drugs

- The school does not allow children to bring or take medicines in school except in particular circumstances as stated in the school prospectus.

- Any medicines that need to be taken by children during the school day must be kept in the school office, clearly labelled with the child's name and instructions for use.
- Special arrangements will be made for children suffering from serious medical conditions who may require urgent or specialised care.
- Medicines for asthma are kept in the classroom first aid rucksack. Medicines for anaphylaxis, diabetes and epilepsy will be kept in the office with individual treatment plans. Staff will be made aware of the children to whom this applies by photos/ information displayed on the staff room notice board. Staff trained in the administration of the medicines will also be identified on the notice board.
- Staff who bring medicines to school must ensure they are kept on their person or out of reach of children, preferably in a locked cupboard.

Roles and responsibilities

The Executive Head teacher takes overall responsibility for:

- the policy and its implementation
- appointing a member of staff as drug education/substance coordinator
- liaison with the governing body, parents, LA and appropriate outside agencies
- ensuring all staff dealing with substance issues are adequately supported and trained

The school governors will monitor and support this responsibility.

The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all members of staff under the coordination of the PSHE Co-ordinator.

If staff have concerns about the misuse of drugs or alcohol by the Executive Head teacher, they should speak to the PSHE Co-ordinator who will liaise with the Chair of Governors.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the policies for PHSE and Citizenship, Sex and Relationships Education, Health and Safety and Behaviour Management.

This policy will be reviewed every three years unless circumstances demand an earlier review.

This policy was formulated by the Executive Head teacher and Governors of The Federation of Liphook Infant School and Liphook CofE Junior School and is to be reviewed every 3 years unless circumstances demand an earlier review.

Signed : ……. Signed ……

Executive Head teacher Chair of Governors

Date: May 2024