



New York Primary School
Federated with
Frithville Primary School

Drug Education and Incident Policy

Plan approved by Governors

Review in Summer 2017

Signed on behalf of Governors: **Sue Brackenbury** Date: **14/07/2016**

Presented to the governors for approval.

Introduction

This policy is descriptive of current practice across the Federation in both Drugs Education and in the handling of drug related incidents. It still needs to go through a full consultation process with staff, parents and governors; it will be circulated to all relevant parties and a sub-committee to discuss developments and improvement. At that stage members of the wider community will be involved in the process (community police officer, local youth service workers, school nurse and members of community and religious groups). It is also recognised that the outcome of developing this policy will have training implications for staff and governors.

The policy will be reviewed annually

Description of Current Practice

Philosophy:

The Frithville and New York Federation defines the term "Drugs" to mean all substances capable of being misused including alcohol, tobacco, medicines and volatile substances as well as illegal drugs. We take the issue of drug use (legal and illegal) seriously and seek to give quality education on drugs to the pupils, which will enable them to make good decisions concerning drug usage both now and in later life. The school seeks to provide accurate, unbiased information about drugs to its pupils in Science and PSHE Drugs Education. It has been shown to be most effective when it takes place in a life skills programme. Therefore the school seeks to provide sessions that are skills based and deal with assertiveness, risk taking and decision making. In other parts of the PSHE programme and citizenship programme staff will be drawing attention to crossover skills and issues that impact on Drugs education.

In addition to this the school seeks to support any pupil who has drug related problems through caring pastoral staff and good working relationships with outside agencies. Recent research shows that drug use in young people is increasing and that this is not confined to any ethnic group or class. Research also shows that young people who use drugs recreationally do not necessarily come from difficult home background or have problems, but that young people in such circumstances often take more risks with their drug use than those who have high self esteem. Therefore all aspects of school life ought to contribute to the young people in the school community learning that they have value as an individual human being. It is our aim that in doing this we raise self-esteem and minimise risk in the area of drug use, as in other areas of life.

1. Drug Education

- PSHE
The description of discretionary content for drugs education in PSHE sessions at Key Stages 1 and 2 as promoted through the Life Education Centre is excellent and forms a good basis from which to implement an appropriate topic on drugs education.
- Science
Under the National Curriculum all schools should teach the following:
Key Stage 1: Pupils should learn about the role of drugs as medicines.
Key Stage 2: Pupils should learn that alcohol, tobacco and other drugs can have harmful effects.
The Frithville and New York Federation meets these requirements.
- Visitors
PSHE and Science lessons about drugs will usually be taken by teachers. However the Police may have a role in lessons about Drugs and the law and the School Nurse may have input into lessons about medicines and their proper use.

2. Responding to Drug Related Incidents

- Smoking - is prohibited everywhere on site.
- If a member of staff is suspicious about drug use or possession they should contact the Head. If an investigation is needed the Headteacher or Baseleader will inform the student of what is happening and why. If the allegations are substantiated the Headteacher or Deputy-head would inform the parents.
- Disclosures of Out of School Drug/Alcohol Abuse
The person the student trusted with this would keep a key role in the follow-up of such disclosures but the relevant Pastoral staff would assist by giving advice and support as above.
- Drug Paraphernalia on Site
Any drug related paraphernalia found on school site should be disposed of safely using gardening gloves and wooden tongs. All needles should be disposed of in a sharp safe. Police should be informed that people are using the site out of hours for drug taking.
- Media
Should the media wish a statement about any drug related incidents or drug education this will be given by the headteacher alone.
- Medicines in School
The use of prescription medicines should be discussed with the headteacher – in general we do not approve of staff administering medicines but may make exceptions in exceptional circumstances with willing staff.
- Staff Issues
 - a) All new staff will be introduced to this policy as part of their induction to working at the school.
 - b) Regular training should be provided for staff to maintain familiarity with the policy and to update skills both in the classroom and in dealing with drug related incidents.

See also policies on:

Race Equality & Equal Opportunities, H&S, PSHE&C, SMSC, Sex & Relationships Education, Religious Education, Child Protection.