



## Pauntley C of E Primary School

### Drug Education & Management Policy

#### School Mission Statement Stepping out boldly with God

*'Jesus said, follow me.'* Matthew 9.9

Pauntley is an inclusive and caring school of choice. We are child-focussed, with core values to enable us all to follow Jesus's example and so flourish and contribute to the local community and the world God loves.

#### Introduction

This policy applies to all staff, pupils, parents/carers, governors and partner agencies working with the school.

The aim of this policy is to provide a framework to ensure:

- Clear guidelines for and consistency in the provision of effective drug education throughout the school
- Consistency in the response to drug-related incidents throughout the school community
- That practices in the school are in harmony with the policy

The purpose of the school drug policy is to:

- Clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities of the school
- Reinforce and safeguard the health and safety of children and others who use the school
- Clarify the school's approach to drugs for all staff, children, governors, parent/carers, external agencies and the wider community
- Give guidance on developing, implementing and monitoring the drug education programme
- Enable staff to manage drugs on school premises, and any incidents that occur, with confidence and consistency, and in the best interests of those involved
- Ensure that the response to incidents involving drugs compliments the overall approach to drug education and the values and ethos of the school
- Provide a basis for evaluating the effectiveness of the school drug education programme
- Reinforce the role of the school in contributing to local and national strategies

#### Definition of Drugs

The definition of a drug given by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is: "a substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave".

The term 'drugs' and 'drug education', unless otherwise stated, is used throughout this document to refer to all drugs:

- All illegal drugs (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971)
- All legal drugs, including alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances (those giving off a gas or vapour which can be inhaled), ketamine, khat and alkyl nitrites (known as poppers)
- All over-the-counter and prescription medicines

The word 'should' has been used to describe an expectation rather than a statutory requirement.

## **Authorised Drugs**

Principally, 'authorised drugs' refers to medicines and any other drugs sanctioned for legitimate use (such as alcohol stored for a raffle, safe storage and use of hazardous chemicals). In all other circumstances, drugs are unauthorised whether legal or not.

## **The School's stance towards drugs, health and the needs of the children**

- Pauntley CofE Primary School believes that a clear message to the whole school community must be given that the possession, use or supply of illegal and other unauthorised drugs is unacceptable
- Boundaries and school responsibility: Children are expected to adhere to this policy once they have entered the physical boundaries of the school until they leave the same boundaries at the end of the school day. The policy will also apply to children on their journey to and from school and if they leave the school premises during the school day. Children will also be expected to adhere to this policy whilst they are attending an event or on a residential or school trip, whether supervised or not. Any children involved in a drug-related incident on such an occasion will be dealt with according to this policy
- The school is committed to the health and safety of its members and will take action to safeguard their well-being
- We believe that we have a duty to inform and educate children in the possible consequences of drug use and misuse. To this end, drug education is an important part of our overall health, personal and social education programme.
- The school acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of young people
- Illegal drugs have no place in school. However, there are instances where other drugs may legitimately be in school

## **Medicines**

Some children may require medicines that have been prescribed for their medical condition during the school day. When the school manages and administers medicines it will have clear procedures and arrangements in place. The school will comply with legislation and take account of local and national guidance. The school is aware that a long-term medical condition that has a substantial and adverse effect on a pupil's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities is recognised as a disability and the school must be mindful of its duties under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and have a school access plan. Please refer to the Medicine Policy for more detail.

## **Drug Education in the Curriculum**

### **Intended outcomes**

Drug education in our school will:

- Encourage children to gain an understanding of drugs and medicines and their role in modern society
- Dispel myths by providing clear and accurate information
- Ensure that children explore and challenge their own and others' values and attitudes to drug use
- Have had opportunities to practise and develop their skills which enable them to make healthy and informed choices now and in later life

### **Aims of drug education**

Through drug education in this school we seek to:

- Minimise the risks that users and potential users face
- Enable informed choice
- Provide accurate information
- Create an environment where children feel able to explore and discuss drug-related issues
- Increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse
- Enable children to identify sources of appropriate personal support
- Encourage understanding about related health and wider social issues

### **Organisation of Drug Education for Key Stage 1 & 2**

Teaching and learning in drug education will recognise the links between Science and PSHE in order to cover the

- knowledge and understanding
- skills
- attitudes.

## **At Key Stage 1**

Drugs education will largely be taught through science and teachers will use circle time and aspects of PSHE and the PiNK Curriculum

## **At Key Stage 2**

Drugs education will be taught largely through science and using the PiNK Curriculum in PSHE again with a focus on using circle time. Teachers at both key stages recognise the importance of creating a safe, secure and supportive learning environment. Ground rules and group agreement with children will be established and reviewed periodically through discussion with children to help foster a mutual respect and an environment in which children feel comfortable and ready to listen and discuss each other's' opinions.

Teachers may use a range of strategies to manage sensitive and controversial issues including:

- Using distancing techniques, e.g. third-person case studies, role-play and theatre-in-education performances, depersonalised discussions, and anonymous question boxes
- Dealing with difficult questions on an individual basis, e.g. seeing children outside the classroom or referring the pupil to the school nurse or an outside agency. N.B. If a pupil's question raises concern that they may be at risk, the teacher should follow the school's safeguarding policy.

## **Drug Education in Year 5/6**

Particular emphasis on drugs education will take place at Year 5/6 with the recognition of the importance of the transition from primary to secondary school. Teaching of Year 6 will recognise the need to provide children with information on how to access advice and support, for example, helplines.

## **Resources**

The school use a variety of teaching materials for staff on drugs education as recommended by the LA. Teachers can also refer to the PSHE Scheme 'Learning for Living' and PiNK Curriculum from Gloucestershire Healthy Living & Learning, SchoolBeat Officer and Life Education Bus.

## **Staff Support and Training**

All members of staff, teaching and non-teaching, have access to this policy. The GHLL will be the first point of contact to identify continuing professional development opportunities.

## **Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation**

### **Monitoring**

The senior leadership team will be responsible for the overall monitoring of drug education, which may include:

- Lesson observations with feedback to teachers
- Looking at samples of children work
- Looking at medium and long term plans
- Reporting to the governors annually.

### **Assessment**

The elements of drug education that form part of the science curriculum at Key Stages 1 and 2 must be assessed in accordance with the requirements of the National Curriculum. The learning from the other elements of drug education should also be assessed as part of overall PSHE provision.

Assessment should identify:

- What knowledge and understanding children have gained and its relevance to them
- What skills they have developed and put into practice
- How their feelings and attitudes have been influenced during the programme.

Ofsted encourages schools to avoid judging achievement in drug education only in terms of gains in factual knowledge.

Assessment should include:

- Assessment for learning (formative), which involves pupils in reviewing and reflecting on their progress and understanding how they can improve their learning
- Assessment of learning (summative), which measures what pupils know, understand and can do

## **Involving Parent/Carers**

All parents/carers are entitled to access to a copy of this policy. Schools can order copies of the leaflet 'A Parents Guide to Drugs and Alcohol' for distribution to parents/carers by calling the NHS Response line. Materials specifically for parents/carers are also available from the FRANK helpline/website.

## **Management of Drugs at School Dealing with drug related incidents**

### **Procedures**

There are a variety of situations that would constitute a drug-related incident outlined below.

1. Child under the influence of drugs/alcohol
2. Discovery – unauthorised drugs/paraphernalia found on a child
3. Supplying by:
  - a) child;
  - b) school staff/parents/carers/persons external to the school community.
4. Disclosure
5. Suspicion or rumour
6. Unauthorised drugs/alcohol/paraphernalia found on premises
7. School staff/parents/carers/person external to the school community under the influence of drugs/alcohol on school premises.

### **Support and sanctions**

There will be an automatic sanction applied to any drug-related incident considered to be in deliberate disregard to school policy. However any long term response will be taken after considering all the relevant facts and information about a child and the circumstances in which any drug-related incident has come about. The school response will be part of a supportive network developed to ensure that the school uses its powers to protect the long-term welfare of all the children in the school.

### **Taking temporary possession of and disposal of suspected illegal drugs**

The law permits school staff to take temporary possession of a substance suspected of being an illegal drug for the purpose of preventing an offence from being committed or continued in relation to that drug, providing that all reasonable steps are taken to destroy the drug or deliver it to a person lawfully entitled to take custody of it. In taking temporary possession and disposing of suspected illegal drugs schools are advised to:

- Ensure that a second adult witness is present throughout
- Seal the sample in a plastic bag and include details of the date and time of the seizure/find and witness present.
- Store it in a secure location, such as the school safe or other lockable container with access limited to two senior members of staff
- **Without delay** notify the police, who will collect it and then store or dispose of it in line with locally agreed protocols. **The law does not require a school to divulge to the police the name of the child from whom the drugs were taken.** Where a child is identified the police will be required to follow set internal procedures.
- Record full details of the incident, including the police incident reference number
- Inform parents/carers, unless this would jeopardise the safety of the child.

School staff should not attempt to analyse or taste unknown substances. Police can advise on analysis and formal identification, although this is normally carried out only if it will be required as evidence within a prosecution.

If formal action is to be taken against a child, the police should make arrangements for them to attend a local police station accompanied by an appropriate adult for interview. Only in exceptional circumstances should arrest or interviews take place at school. An appropriate adult should always be present during interviews, preferably a parent/carer or duty social worker.

### **Confiscation and disposal of other unauthorised drugs**

Staff should only confiscate drugs in the presence of a second adult witness.

### **Alcohol and tobacco**

Parents/carers should normally be informed and given the opportunity to collect the alcohol or tobacco, unless this would jeopardise the safety of the child.

## **Volatile substances**

Given the level of danger posed by volatile substances schools may arrange for their safe disposal. Small amounts may be placed in a bin to which children do not have access, for example a bin within a locked cupboard.

## **Medicines**

Disposal of medicines held at school is covered in the school's medicines policy. Parents/carers should collect and dispose of unused or date-expired medicines.

## **Disposal of drug paraphernalia**

Needles or syringes found on school premises should be placed in a sturdy, secure container (for example, a tin with lid), using gloves, soft-drink cans or plastic bottles should not be used. Used needles and syringes should not be disposed of in domestic waste.

## **Personal Searches**

School staff can search a child for any item if:

- a) the child agrees or
- b) the Headteacher or member of SLT have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the child may have a prohibited item.

Prohibited items are:

- knives or weapons
- alcohol
- illegal drugs
- stolen items
- tobacco and cigarette papers
- fireworks
- pornographic images
- any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used:
  - to commit an offence, or
  - to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the child).

## **Searches of School Property**

Staff may search school property, for example, child's drawers if they believe drugs to be stored there.

## **Working in Partnership with the Police**

The school will contact the police to discuss a case and ask for advice without necessarily needing to divulge a pupil's name. 999 should only be called in emergencies.

## **Confidentiality**

In managing drugs the school needs to have regard to issues of confidentiality. **Teachers cannot and should not promise total confidentiality.** The boundaries of confidentiality should be made clear to children. It may be necessary to invoke local child protection procedures if a child's safety is under threat.

## **Informing Parents/Carers**

The school will inform the child's parents/carers of any incident involving illegal and other unauthorised drugs. The school will explain how it intends to respond to the incident and to the child's needs. However, if the school suspects that to do this may put the child's safety at risk, or if there is any other cause for concern for the child's safety at home, then the school will exercise caution when considering involving parent/carers. In any such situation the child protection procedures will be followed. The school will be happy to refer parents/carers to sources of help, for example specialist drug agencies or family support groups if requested.

## **Parents/Carers Under the Influence of Drugs at School**

When dealing with parents/carers under the influence of drugs on the school premises, staff should attempt to maintain a calm atmosphere. On occasion, a teacher may have concerns about discharging a child into the care of a parent/carer. In such instances, schools might wish to discuss with the parent/carer if alternative arrangements could be made, for example asking another parent/carer to accompany the child home. The focus for staff will always be the maintenance of the child's welfare, as opposed to the moderation of the parent's/carer's behaviour. Where the behaviour of a parent/carer under the influence of drugs repeatedly

places a child at risk or the parent/carer becomes abusive or violent, staff should consider whether to invoke child protection procedures and/or the involvement of the police.

This policy should be read alongside all other school policies and with particular reference to PSHE, Safeguarding, Intimate Care and Health & Safety and Medicine Policy.

This policy has been written with reference to the following documents:

- DfE Guidance January 2018 Searching & Screening
- PiNK Curriculum
- LA Guidelines