

Woodcroft Primary School



Draft Drug and Alcohol Education Policy

Mission statement

'Together Towards Success'

Together we aim for all our pupils, parents/carers and staff, to increase their participation within our school. This is achieved through the development of inclusive cultures, policies and practices. We take account of disability, race and gender to create a secure and accepting community where everyone feels valued.

Towards an outstanding school that provides an enriching and creative learning experience for all pupils. We respond to the diversity of needs through our commitment to equality for all pupils; overcoming potential barriers to learning and setting suitable personalised targets.

Success is expected for every pupil. Every pupil should reach their full potential, recognising personal strengths and celebrating the achievements of themselves and others; both within the school and its wider community. We are committed to ensuring that our pupils have high expectations of themselves with full commitment from all staff.

Rationale

Every child has a right to be safe and healthy. As a school we recognise that we play an important role in supporting and promoting attitudes and practices which encourage our pupils to choose a healthy lifestyle. Our aim is to create an environment in which our pupils feel safe and able to discuss their problems and concerns whilst developing their knowledge and understanding of drugs and their appropriate use.

Aim and Objectives

- Enable pupils to manage personal, social and emotional development and change.
- Develop pupils' personal and social skills in decision making.
- Explore strategies for healthy lifestyles.
- Enable pupils to make reasoned choices by providing accurate information about substances and dispelling myths.
- Increase pupils' understanding about the possible consequences of using substances and how their own actions might affect themselves and others.
- Enable pupils to develop their knowledge and understanding of which commonly available substances and drugs are legal and illegal and their effects and risks.
- Developing pupils' knowledge and understanding to enable them to make reasoned choices by providing accurate information about substances and dispelling any myths.

Guidelines

The term 'drug' throughout this document includes medicines as well as tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, solvents and glues. We recognise the importance of exploring the beneficial use of drugs as medicines as well as the harmful effects of drug misuse.

Drug Education can be viewed through three areas; Prevention of harm, Intervention and Harm reduction.

Through Drugs Education the aim is:

1. To develop pupils' self-esteem and confidence.
2. To give full and accurate information about drugs.
3. To consider and/or challenge attitudes pupils may have regarding drug use and misuse.
4. To provide knowledge for pupils to be equipped with, and practise the skills they need to avoid misuse of drugs.
5. To provide an environment where pupils feel safe in discussing their own views and understanding.

The Teaching of Drugs Education

In Key Stages 1 & 2 a planned programme of drugs education will be delivered based upon the PSHE and the Science curriculum. Children will be taught:

- What is safe to put into/onto the body and what substances can be harmful if not used properly.
- That all medicines are drugs but that not all drugs are medicines.
- The rules for keeping safe at home and at school.
- That they have rights over their own bodies and a voice to use if they have any worries or concerns.
- That some people need drugs to live a normal life and that some drugs can prevent the development of diseases e.g. immunisation.

Resources

At Woodcroft Primary School we have adopted the Christopher Winter Project 'Drug and Alcohol Education' schemes of work. All of the materials form a comprehensive and inclusive resource with lesson plans that combine a range of teaching styles and active learning techniques. All of these lessons have a clear structure and are age-appropriate with clear aims and learning outcomes with suggested additional activities and accompanying resources.

Christopher Winter Project – Curriculum Overview:
Drugs and Alcohol Education

Year 1 – 'Medicines and People who help us'

Lesson 1: Staying healthy

Lesson 2: Medicines

Lesson 3: Who gives us medicines?

Year 2 – 'Risk'

Lesson 1: Keeping safe

Lesson 2: Hazardous substances

Lesson 3: Safety rules

Year 3 – 'Smoking' Lesson

1: Why people smoke

Lesson 2: Physical effects

Lesson 3: Smoking and Society

Year 4 – 'Alcohol'

Lesson 1: Effects of alcohol

Lesson 2: Alcohol and risk

Lesson 3: Limits to drinking alcohol

Year 5 – 'Legal and illegal drugs'

Lesson 1: Legal and illegal drugs

Lesson 2: Attitudes to drugs

Lesson 3: Peer pressure

Year 6 – 'Preventing early use'

Lesson 1: Cannabis

Lesson 2: VSA and getting help

Lesson 3: Help, advice and support

Additional materials and resources, recommended by the CWP, will also be used where appropriate.

Assessing learning

Following delivery of each lesson teachers will be making formative assessments of the knowledge and understanding of pupils through POP tasks and end of lesson quizzes.

The role of parents

The school is aware that the primary role in children's drugs and alcohol education lies with parents and carers. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and cooperation.

In promoting this objective we:

1. Inform parents about what their children will be learning about prior to the start of lessons.
2. Invite parents into school to view materials and discuss any concerns that they may have.
3. Answer any questions that parents may have regarding the Drugs and Alcohol Education of their child so that the teaching in school supports the key messages that parents and carers give to children at home.

The role of the Coordinator

It is the responsibility of the Coordinator to ensure that the policy is implemented effectively and that Drug and Alcohol Education is being taught across the school following the Christopher Winter Project as recommended by Barnet. It is also Coordinators responsibility to ensure that members of staff are provided with appropriate training and support and have access to the relevant resources.

This policy was written by: Jackie Valoti - September 2023