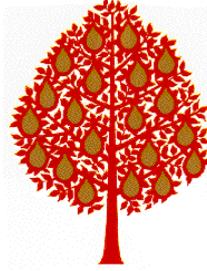


PERRYFIELDS INFANT SCHOOL



Helping each other to learn and grow

DRUGS AND SUBSTANCE MISUSE POLICY

Approved By	Date	Next Review Date

PERRYFIELDS INFANTS SCHOOL DRUGS AND SUBSTANCE MISUSE POLICY



Helping each other to learn and grow

This school defines the term 'drug' as any substances which effects the way in which the body functions physically, emotionally or mentally and includes tobacco, alcohol, other legal drugs e.g. caffeine, over-the-counter and prescribed medicines, volatile (sniffable) substances or solvents as well as illegal substances.

Values and aims

Set in the broader context of personal, social and health education, our drugs education reflects whole school aims to provide a caring community in which young people can learn to respect themselves and others and take responsibility for their own actions. We are committed to the health and safety of all members of the school community and will take action to safeguard their well-being.

Fundamental to our school's values and practice is the principle of sharing the responsibility for the education with parents and carers. We strive for effective communication and co-operation.

This policy will apply on the school premises and beyond wherever pupils are within the care of school staff. This includes school trips and educational visits. The school will also have an interest in the health and well-being of the pupils beyond these school boundaries and we would encourage parents and others in the community to adopt the same principles. Therefore, any parties responsible for hiring our premises should be aware of our policy and agree to conform to it.

Rationale

We believe that the purpose of drug education should be to give pupils the knowledge, skills and attitudes to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and to relate these to their own actions, both now and in the future.

We aim to:

- Enable young children to make healthy, informed choices through increasing their knowledge, challenging and exploring attitudes and developing and practising skills;
- To help young people to develop a sense of self-awareness and self-esteem;
- To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of drug use and misuse;

- To listen to young people's thoughts, feelings and concerns and to ensure that drug education responds to their needs;
- To help young people distinguish between different substances, consider their use, misuse, benefit and harm;
- To counter any inaccurate messages which young people receive about drugs;
- To encourage an understanding for those experiencing or likely to experience drug use including those dependent on medicinal drugs;
- To widen understanding about related health, social and legal issues;
- To enable children to identify where help and support can be found;
- To develop as a Healthy School.

We will strive to achieve these aims by:

- A co-ordinated and consistent approach to the curriculum and to possible drug-related incidents;
- An appropriate teaching programme which responds to pupils' needs;
- Content and teaching approaches which match the needs and maturities of all pupils, including those with special educational needs and English as an additional language;
- Key messages being reinforced at different ages and stages and in different situation;
- Appropriate involvement of the whole community, including staff, governors, parents, pupils and relevant visitors;
- Training and support for staff in the planning and delivery of drugs education;
- Recognising that adults are role models for children;
- Working in partnership with parents and carers; the school will encourage ways to avoid the need or dependence on over-the-counter drugs;

Teaching curriculum, materials and approaches

Delivery will be:

- Through planned elements of National Curriculum subjects and RE
- Through discreet PSHE time
- Through assemblies
- Through occasional planned and negotiated visits from the school nurse, police officer or other appropriate people;
- Through informal curriculum and extracurricular activities.

A wide range of teaching approaches can be used and we particularly encourage active and accelerated learning methods, which involve children's full participation. Ground rules will be negotiated when appropriate and the sensitivity of the work will be recognised, safeguarding the interests of the individual child and the whole class.

Confidentiality

Some pupils may choose to mention instances of drug use in class or with individual members of the school community. While staff will want to be supportive, it is clear that they work within child protection guidelines and clearly state that they may not be able to guarantee confidentiality.

Medicines and other legal drugs

All medicines to be administered to children are to be held securely in the school office with written permission slips signed by parents or carers. Parents and carers are encouraged to come into school to administer medicines (see the managing medicines policy and the Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions guidance DFE Sept 2014)

This Drugs and Substance Misuse policy was considered between staff and governors and was approved on.....

This policy was reviewed on.....February 2019.

This policy will be reviewed again in 2023.