

# NEWBRIDGE SCHOOL

## DRUGS POLICY

**2017-2018**

**Updated: October 2017**

**Reviewed: October 2018**



A member of the Advance Trust, a Charity and Company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 8414933 whose registered office is at Vale of Evesham School, Four Pools Lane, Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 1BN.

## **Rationale**

Drug use and misuse are becoming increasingly common in our society. Children and young people of school age are part of society and this school recognises the need to deal with the broad range of drug related situations and incidents which may occur in the lives of those pupils and others involved in the life of the school.

It is our intention that that an agreed written policy will prevent the chance of either too hasty or too limited a response to an incident which could put those involved at greater risk.

Most widespread short-term threats to personal safety are from alcohol and volatile (sniffable) substances. In the long term, statistically, the greatest danger is to smokers of tobacco.

We believe that a quality drug education policy and programme will help to develop 'healthy classrooms' and a 'healthy school', and will support our school aims to provide a safe environment in which pupils can develop skills, qualities, knowledge and understanding for life.

## **DRUG EDUCATION**

### **Aims**

- To encourage a healthy respect for all substances taken into the body.
- To develop safe and healthy attitudes towards drugs, and build foundations for a healthy lifestyle.
- To increase pupil knowledge and understanding of drug use and related issues.
- To enable pupils to develop confidence and self-esteem.
- To explore a range of opinions and attitudes towards drug use and where appropriate to enable pupils to arrive at their own, informed views.
- To develop a range of skills relating to drug use and enable pupils where appropriate to make their own, informed decisions about drugs.
- To make a clear contribution to the Every Child Matter (ECM) outcomes of Staying safe, Enjoy and Achieve and to be Healthy.

## The Curriculum content

The National Curriculum for Science and PHSE requires the following elements of drug education to be taught:

- that the abuse of alcohol, solvents, tobacco and other drugs affects health;
- that the body's natural defences may be enhanced by immunisation and medicines; and,
- how smoking affects lung structure and gas exchange.

All students should be taught the effects of solvents, tobacco, alcohol and other drugs on body functions.

Further drug education is presently discretionary and is integrated into the wider programme of PHSE (see Scheme of Work). Schools have a statutory duty to provide a balanced and broadly based curriculum that:

- promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society; and
- prepares pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life (Education Act 1996, section 351).

Our school provision contributes positively to these whole curricular aims.

It is important that drug issues are not sensationalised and are seen by pupils as a normal thing to discuss.

Drugs education should be seen as part of their PSHE work and should not over emphasise the study of illegal drugs. An emphasis should be on protective behaviours and enabling young people to see the dangers in certain situations and developing strategies to resist pressure from peers and others.

The school uses the QCA Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education guidance as a framework within the PSHE scheme of work. Staff will adapt the scheme of work according to the level of maturity and ability of the pupils.

Where the scheme of work is inappropriate to the developmental needs and abilities of the pupils, the staff will revise and adapt the materials studied at an earlier key stage.

The Guidance and scheme of work is found on the QCA website and paper copies are retained by the PSHE co-ordinator Assistant Headteacher.

## DEALING WITH INCIDENTS

### Definition of a Drug

*'A drug is a substance that alters the way in which the body functions'*, Martin Plant 'Drugs in Perspective' it includes medicines, alcohol and tobacco, as well as illegal drugs such as heroin or cannabis.

### Managing Drug Related Incidents

It is vital that all drug related incidents are dealt with in a consistent way.

### Medical Drugs

All medication brought to school should be sealed, and clearly marked with the pupil's name and passed to the First Aider. All medication is administered by a First Aider and recorded.

### Non-medical Drugs

It is important to assess a drug incident carefully before acting. Consider the following questions:

- What information do you have about the incident and who has provided it?
- Is it fact or rumour?
- Who is involved and in what capacity?
- Which drugs are involved?

When talking to pupils:

#### Do

- Stay calm
- Be clear about what you are trying to achieve
- Encourage them to talk and listen carefully to what they have to say
- Keep your focus on the pupil rather than the drugs
- Keep the matter in perspective
- Assess the risks involved in a realistic way
- Check your facts
- Keep your faith in the pupil

#### Don't

- Over-react, shout, threaten or interrogate the pupil
- Assume you have to do anything drastic
- Exaggerate the risks involved
- Give inaccurate information
- Expect children to share your views about drugs
- Make blanket generalisations
- Moralise or undermine

If a pupil is found with a drug or similarly misusable substance:

- Obtain medical help if necessary - see **Appendix 2**.
- Take the substance away from the pupil if possible in the presence of a witness and take it to the Headteacher's Office to be locked away.
- Talk to pupils separately if there is more than one person involved.
- Make a report of the incident on the prepared recording sheet - see **Appendix 3**
- There is no legal requirement to inform parents if you know their children are using drugs – however, each situation should be assessed and discussed with the Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher/PSHE Co-ordinator before any disclosures are made either to parents or to other authorities.

It is very important to carefully record all such instances.

### **Confidentiality**

- Teachers should not offer absolute confidentiality, although they can provide an important source of support for pupils
- After consultation with the Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher it may be considered advisable to arrange professional help for pupils
- DFEE guidelines recommend that the police are informed in situation where schools have information about illegal drug use or find illegal drugs. Any such information should only be disclosed by The Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher.

We have developed good working relationships with the local police officers who are willing to assist us with this issue.

### **Sanctions**

It is important to use sensible consistent sanctions whilst being attentive to individual needs. There should be a balance between sanctions, support and education. Procedures should be flexible allowing for negotiation between school management, parents and pupils.

Alcohol should not be brought to school or consumed on the premises other than on social occasions attended by adults only. Alcohol donated as raffle/tombola prizes etc should not be given to pupils under the age of 18.

Under the **Misuse of Drugs Act** it is an offence to allow premises you occupy or manage to be used for supply of any controlled drug, the cultivation of drugs, or the use of cannabis or opium. If you become aware of the use, supply or cultivation of controlled drugs on school premises you should take prompt action to prevent them.

The police have rights of entry to school buildings to search if you give consent or they have a search warrant. They can also enter and search without a warrant or your consent to arrest someone for a drugs offence, to avoid a breach of peace, to catch someone who is illegally at large or if the school is in the immediate vicinity of supply of controlled drugs.

## **Dealing with the Media**

All school staff should refrain from making any statements about drug related situations to the press. All such statements should be dealt with by the Headteacher.

## **List of Appendices**

Appendix 1	Drugs Education Resources
Appendix 2	Drug Situations - Medical Emergencies
Appendix 3	Record of Drugs - related situation

### Drugs Education Resources

- \* The Primary School Drugs Pack
- \* Sort out the Science Drug Education KS3
- \* Take 4 Drug Education for KS4
- \* Basic Drug Facts (card game)
- \* STAR Drug Education Programme KS2
- \* Drug Abuse Briefing (A Guide for Staff)
- \* Six Pack - A Compendium of Games for Alcohol Education
- \* A Range of Leaflets and Pamphlets
- \* See Main PSHE resources for videos, photocopiable resources etc on general PSHE Education. There are sections on Drug Education. Good Health Guide to Drugs.
- \* The County PSHE department have additional resources available for loan.  
Please contact Maria Maynard - Pitmaston House Tel: 01905 425000

Gogglebox – Don't smoke you make me choke

Chalkface – PSHE for students with MLD or EBD 'Drug Awareness'

Skills for Primary School Child – The World of Drugs

The Primary School Smoking Education Pack

A Loaded Gun

### Drug Situations - Medical Emergencies

The procedures for an emergency apply when a child or young person or others are at immediate risk of harm. A person who is unconscious, having trouble breathing, seriously confused or disoriented or who has taken a harmful toxic substance, should be responded to as an emergency.

Your main responsibility is for any pupil at immediate risk, but you also need to ensure the well-being and safety of others. Put into practice your schools first aid procedures. **IF IN DOUBT, CALL MEDICAL HELP**

#### **ALWAYS:**

- \* assess the situation
- \* if a medical emergency, send for medical help and an ambulance

#### **BEFORE ASSISTANCE ARRIVES:**

##### **If the person is conscious:**

- \* ask the person what has happened and to identify any drug used
- \* collect any drug sample and any vomit for medical analysis
- \* **do not** induce vomiting
- \* keep the person under observation, warm and quiet

##### **If the person is unconscious:**

- \* ensure that the person can breathe and place in the recovery position
- \* **do not** move the person if a fall is likely to have led to spinal or other serious injury which may not be obvious
- \* **do not** give anything by mouth
- \* **do not** attempt to make the person sit or stand
- \* **do not** leave the person unattended or in the charge of another pupil

#### **WHEN MEDICAL HELP ARRIVES:**

- \* pass on any information available including vomit and any drug samples

**PLEASE COMPLETE AN EMERGENCY RECORD FORM AS SOON AS YOU HAVE DEALT WITH THE EMERGENCY**

**Record of incident involving unauthorised drug**

1. For help & advice contact LEA.
2. Complete the form **WITHOUT** identifying the pupil involved.
3. Copy the form.
4. Send the copy within 24 hours of the incident to the LEA.
5. KEEP the original, adding the pupil's name and form—store securely.

**Tick to indicate the category:**

- Drug or paraphernalia found **on** NSSS premises
- Emergency/Intoxication
- Pupil in possession of unauthorised drug
- Pupil supplying unauthorised drug on NSSS Site
- Pupil disclosure of drug use
- Disclosure of parent/carer drug misuse
- Parent/carer expresses concern
- Incident occurring **off** NSSS premises

Name of pupil*		Name of School: Newbridge School	
Pupils form*	(* for school records only)		
Age of Pupil	Male/Female	Time of Incident	am/pm
		Date of Incident	
Tick Box if second or subsequent incident involving same pupil		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Report form completed by: _____			
Ethnicity of pupil**		_____	

**First Aid given?**

Yes  No

First aid given by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ambulance/Doctor called?**

Yes  Called by: \_\_\_\_\_

No  Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Drug Involved (if known):

Drug found/removed? Yes  No

Where found/seized: \_\_\_\_\_

Senior staff involved:

Name and signature of witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Disposal arranged with (Police/parent/other) \_\_\_\_\_

If police Incident ref number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent/carer informed*:	(* for school records only)
Informed by:	At time:

Brief description of incident (including any physical symptoms):

Other action Taken: (e.g. other agency involvement, educational psychologist request, case conference, pupils/staff informed, LEA/GP/Police consulted)

\*\* categories: British, Irish, other white, white & black Caribbean, white & black African, white & Asian, other mixed, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, other Asian, Caribbean, African, other black, Chinese, any other , not stated.