

Elmwood Infant and Nursery School

Drugs, Tobacco and Alcohol Policy



Article 29 'Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full'



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DATE POLICY REVIEWED: Summer 2016

DATE OF NEXT REVIEW: Summer 2019

Principles

Every drug, whatever its legal or social status, has the potential to cause physical or other harm. The fact that a wide variety of drugs are commonly and extensively available make it vital for children and young people to receive relevant drug education. It should not be delivered in isolation but should be firmly embedded in the PSHE curriculum provided by the school. Many attitudes, behaviours and skills are common to other aspects of health education. The school aims to encourage pupils to make healthy, informed choices by increasing their knowledge, challenging their attitudes and improving their skills. We also believe that the misuse of any drugs on the school premises cannot be condoned and will be dealt with consistently and clearly with regard to the needs of the school and the individual concerned. Fundamental to the school's values and practice is the principle of sharing the responsibility for the education of children with parents, keeping them informed and involved at all times. Effective communication and co-operation is essential to the successful implementation of this policy.

Elmwood Infant School and Nursery is committed to the health and safety of everyone and will work together with parents and the local community to encourage pupils to make healthy, informed choices and discourage the misuse of drugs.

Other related policies:

- Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Equal opportunities/Race Discrimination Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- SRE Policy

Aims

- To develop a whole school approach to drug education in the context of the science curriculum and the PSHE programme.
- To provide accurate information about a range of drugs, including medicines, alcohol and tobacco.
- To explore attitudes and develop skills in making decisions about drugs.
- To have a clear and agreed understanding among everyone in the school community about the implications and possible consequences of drug use/misuse.
- To clarify appropriate procedures in the management of drug-related incidents.
- To respond to any individual within the school community in need of support and protection.

Organisation of drug, alcohol and tobacco education within the curriculum

- Drug Education is provided within the broader framework of PSHE/Citizenship, where wider issues of promoting health, positive behaviour and social responsibility can be addressed and where drug misuse is one component.

- PSHE is taught weekly, often through forums such as 'circle time' where issues can be discussed. Drug education will form part of the PSHE curriculum, and it will also be taught as part of the science curriculum.

Dealing with a drug related incident

The school believes we should be a community free of drug misuse. Illegal substances should not be brought into school and the use or supply of drugs on the school premises will be regarded with the utmost seriousness and appropriate authorities informed. A record of all drug related incidents will be kept by the Head teacher.

Review and Monitoring

The policy will be monitored and evaluated by:

- PSHE Co-coordinator
- Senior Leadership Team (SLT)
- Governors.