

# Drugs Education Policy



## Mission statement

At Emmanuel school, broad opportunities are provided for individuals to develop their full potential and allow them to be healthy, happy and secure.

Building on our Christian ethos and in partnership with the whole school community, we provide a stimulating and caring environment where individuals are valued and nurtured morally, spiritually and academically. We stress the fundamental principle;

**“Always treat others as you would like them to treat you” Matthew 7:12**

## Introduction

**Staff responsible for drugs issues:** The PSHE Leader is responsible for the development, monitoring and review of the drug education curriculum, supporting and training staff and liaising with any external agencies to support the curriculum.

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for drugs issues including managing drug-related incidents, liaising with the Police and other external agencies, including support services. The Deputy Head and PSHE leader are responsible for developing, monitoring and reviewing the drugs policy.

The school has a link PHSE Governor who takes a lead on drugs issues and liaises with the school about curriculum and policy.

## Links to other Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies; PSHE and Citizenship, Health and Safety, Behaviour, Safeguarding & Child Protection and Administration of Medicines.

## Definition of Drugs

- This guidance describes drugs as “A substance people take that changes the way they feel, think or behave”. This refers to legal and illegal drugs:
- Drugs that are illegal\* (those controlled by the Misuse of drugs Act 1971) such as ecstasy, cannabis, crack/cocaine, heroin and LSD, ketamine, Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS-formerly known as “legal highs”) GHB, anabolic steroids and khat
- Drugs that are legal to use but are covered by some legislation such as selling to under 18 year olds including alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes, shisha and volatile substances (solvents)
- Drugs that are legal to use such as poppers, caffeine drinks
- Over the counter and prescription medicines

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\*Nitrous Oxide is not illegal under the Misuse of Drugs Act but is illegal to produce, supply, sell or import for human consumption under the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016

## Definitions of other key words

Drug use describes any drug taking. Any drug use can potentially lead to harm, including through intoxication, breach of the law or school rules, or future health problems.

Drug misuse is drug taking which leads to social, psychological, physical or legal problems through intoxication, regular excessive consumption and/or dependence.

## Why a Policy is Needed

We believe that drugs play a part in the lives of every one of us and recognize that drug use and misuse can have a serious effect on health, well-being and academic achievement. We have a crucial role to play in drug prevention and education.

Primary aged children need to be protected from the harm that drugs can cause and it is our responsibility to give them the knowledge and skills to be able to be healthy and keep safe.

The DfE advises that all schools have an up to date policy which is part of being a healthy school.

We take a positive and proactive approach to the issue of drugs and this policy aims to:

- Give a clear view on the use of drugs in school.
- Provide information so that everyone is clear about the procedures should an incident occur and the approach taken by the school.
- Give information about what is taught, how it is taught.
- Give guidance to teachers, support staff and visitors about drug education.

## How the Policy was Developed and the Consultation Process

This policy was drafted by the Deputy Head and PSHE Lead, following advice from Camden's Health and Wellbeing Team. We have taken account of key national and local guidance including: DfE Relationships Education, RSE and Health Education statutory guidance June 2020 Programme of Study produced by PSHE Association Jan 2020 Camden's example Drugs policy (2020)

## Approach to Tackling Drugs

As part of being a healthy school we take a proactive and whole school approach through

- Teaching a planned drug education programme in PSHE, Citizenship and Science informed by the views of pupils, parents and staff that equips pupils with the knowledge and skills they need
- Considering carefully our responses to drug-related incidents

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- Having clear school rules and sanctions related to drugs
- Providing access to specialist support and advice for pupils at risk of drug-related harm and those with drug or alcohol misuse in the family
- Providing training and support for staff so they feel confident to teach drug education and manage any drug-related incidents

## Drug Education

Drug education covers the teaching about drugs, alcohol and tobacco (including e-cigarettes and shisha and is a key part of preventing drug misuse and promoting the health and wellbeing of young people.

### Aims of drug education

- To give pupils age-appropriate and accurate information about the effects and risks of substances (including substances in the home, and alcohol, tobacco, medicines, volatile substances and illegal drugs)
- Help pupils to develop the skills and attitudes to keep safe, manage situations make healthy and responsible decisions

To achieve this, our drug education programme will help pupils:

- gain knowledge and understanding about the effects and risks and dangers of drugs and correct myths and misunderstandings
- develop skills to make informed decisions, including communication, self-awareness, negotiation, finding information, help and advice, helping others and managing situations involving drugs
- develop skills to manage situations involving drugs including assessing and avoiding risks, assertiveness and refusal skills and helping others
- explore their own and other peoples' attitudes to drugs, drug use and drug users, including challenging stereotypes and dispelling myths and exploring media and social influences

### Where is it taught in the curriculum?

Teaching about drugs, alcohol and tobacco is taught mainly through PSHE and citizenship and in Science where it is required in the National Curriculum.

### What is taught?

The content reflects

- Statutory Health Education-by the end of primary, pupils should know the facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking.
- Statutory Science
- Year 6 have to be taught to recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function (this can be taught earlier in KS2)

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- *Pupils should learn how to keep their bodies healthy and how their bodies might be damaged – including how some drugs and other substances can be harmful to the human body. Pupils might work scientifically by: exploring the work of scientists and scientific research about the relationship between diet, exercise, drugs, lifestyle and health*

**Key Stage 1** focuses on what are safe and unsafe substances, what medicines are, why people take them and how to take them safely, being ill and getting better and what to do if someone persuades you to take something dangerous.

**Key Stage 2** focuses on what a drug is (legal and illegal), the effects and risks of drugs; particularly tobacco (including shisha) and alcohol, managing peer influences and resisting pressure to take risks and be able to make safe decisions.

Our curriculum ensures that we are covering both the statutory requirement in science to teach Year 6 to recognise the impact of drugs on the way their bodies function and the non-statutory science guidance to teach Year 6 how some drugs and other substances can be harmful to the human body and the relationship between diet, exercise, drugs, lifestyle and health.

Objectives and key learning intentions are set for each lesson, and on medium term plans. Drug education focuses on knowledge and understanding, skills and attitudes and the teaching programme ensures that there is progression from reception to Year 6 with topics and issues included which are appropriate to the age and maturity of pupils.

In addition, in order to ensure that the drug education programme reflects the views of pupils and is appropriate and relevant to them, pupils take an active part in planning the programme through a range of ways such as:

- consultations with pupils through the school council
- completing end of topic evaluations
- assessments at the beginning of teaching drug education with Key Stage 2 to establish prior knowledge and understanding

The drug education curriculum is reviewed as part of the annual PSHE and citizenship review led by the PSHE Leader and based on pupil and teacher evaluations.

### **How it is taught (including involving outside contributors)**

A wide range of active teaching methods are used that enable pupils to learn skills to be safe and healthy, discuss their views, explore their own and other peoples' attitudes and values about drugs, as well as learn key information about the effects and risks of drugs and practice skills to stay safe if involved in a drug-related situation. Such activities include role play, discussions, debates, case studies, quizzes, research and games. Pupils work individually, in pairs, in small groups and with the whole class, mixing up so that they experience working with lots of different pupils in the class, as well as in friendship groups.

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All classes establish clear ground rules to ensure that pupils discuss opinions with respect and listen to one another as well as ensuring that pupils and teachers do not disclose personal information.

## **Who teaches drug education?**

Drug education is taught by the class teacher. There are occasions that we might involve an external organisation or the school nurse for their expertise. When external organisations are used, the lessons are planned with them and the teacher is always present. We check the organisation and ensure they have the necessary experience and skills to deliver drug education to primary pupils. We use the Camden protocol for external organisations.

## **How pupils' learning is assessed**

Pupils' progress in drug education is assessed as part of PSHE and Citizenship assessment and Science assessment. Pupils' knowledge, attitudes and skills are assessed through a range of methods including end of topic self-assessment and teacher assessment.

## **How drug education is monitored and evaluated**

Monitoring and evaluation help to plan future lessons and to review the teaching programme and improve the quality of teaching and learning.

The PSHE Leader is responsible for monitoring and evaluation. A range of methods are used including lesson observations and looking at pupils' work. Teachers use the scheme of work to monitor what they are covering and record whether they make changes.

Pupils and teachers evaluate the drug education programme through completing end of topic evaluations and specific evaluations of outside contributors.

## **Training and Support for Staff**

All staff who teach drug education participate in PSHE training and have opportunities to update their knowledge and develop their skills through a range of continuing professional development activities including; INSET, team teaching, observing other teachers, on-going support from other teachers, trialing new resources and carrying out action research. We take advantage of the support, advice and training provided by Camden's Health and Wellbeing Team.

Information and teaching strategies gained from training are shared with other staff through staff meetings and INSET.

The PSHE Leader has opportunities to develop their skills in planning drug education, through support from Camden's Health and Wellbeing Team.

## Management of Drugs in Schools

### **School's view about the use of drugs**

This school does not permit the possession, use or supply of any illegal or legal drug (unless authorized legal drug), which takes place within the school boundaries. This covers; on or near the school premises, within the school day and during term time, on school visits, school journeys and at school social events.

These rules apply equally to staff, pupils, parents and carers, governors and those working and visiting the school.

### **Management of authorised legal drugs**

This school has agreed that there are circumstances, when some legal drugs are authorized for use in school. These are prescribed medicines, hazardous chemicals (and solvents) and alcohol (events).

#### ***(i) Medicines***

In most cases, staff do not administer medicines at school to pupils unless it would be detrimental to health or attendance not to administer and only with parental written consent. Details about managing medicines can be found in the policy on "Supporting pupils with medical needs policy".

From 1 October 2014 schools have been allowed to keep a salbutamol inhaler for use in emergencies when a child with asthma cannot access their own inhaler. Although this is not a requirement, we have decided to keep an inhaler for emergency use. It is only for children who have written parental consent who have been diagnosed with asthma and prescribed an inhaler or who have been prescribed an inhaler as reliever medication. Please see our school protocol for using the emergency inhaler as part of our "Supporting pupils with medical needs policy".

Staff are aware of any serious medical conditions which affect pupils in their class.

The School Nurse will be informed of any children attending the school with medical conditions. Advice will be sought on ensuring they have an appropriate care plan and that school staff are trained to administer any medication required for the day to day management of their condition in school or during a medical emergency.

#### ***(ii) Hazardous chemicals and volatile substances (solvents)***

Arrangements for the secure and safe storage of chemicals e.g. for cleaning are set out in the Health and Safety Policy

In the event of a child or adult whom is required to use medical sharps to address the management of their health condition (e.g. insulin or gluco blood testing) a medical sharps disposal bin will be provided. Advice will be sought from the School Nurse regarding the management of the sharps and sharps bin on the school site.

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## *(iii) Alcohol*

There are occasions when alcohol is authorised at school during parent's events, staff social events and school lettings events. Staff accompanying pupils on field trips or school journeys are not permitted to drink when responsible for pupils.

## **Smoking Policy**

We are a smoke free school and staff, parents, pupils and visitors are not allowed to smoke anywhere on school premises or in sight of the school. Smoke free signage is prominent around our school grounds.

Staff, parents and pupils who want to give up smoking have access to the free NHS stop smoking service in Camden, Breathe. The service can be accessed on <https://www.breathestopsmoking.org/> or contacted on 0203 633 2609, both group and one to one support is available.

## *E-cigarettes (sometimes known as nicotine vaporisers)*

Although e-cigarettes are not covered by smoking legislation we are following Camden's approach and not allowing the use of e-cigarettes by pupils, staff, parents, contractors or visitors on the school premises and strongly discourage parents using them when collecting their children from school.

## **Management of Drug Related Incidents**

### **Definition of a drug-related incident**

In this school, a drug-related incident includes any incidents involving any drug that is unauthorised and therefore not permitted within the school boundaries.

Drug related incidents in a primary school rarely involve illegal substances but can involve: Pupils smoking cigarettes, a parent/carer collecting their child whilst drunk, pupils selling cigarettes to other pupils, misusing another pupils' asthma inhaler, disclosing concern about a family member who has a drug problem, giving medicines to another pupil, a teacher with information about the illegal sale of cigarettes at a local shop, the school site service manager finding used syringes in the playground, a member of the public phoning the school to say they have seen pupils smoking in Camden.

### *School responses to drug-related incidents*

In all drug-related incidents the following principles will apply:

- The Headteacher and Deputy Head will be informed immediately
- All situations will be carefully considered before deciding on the response

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- The needs of the pupil(s) will always come first, whilst also taking account of the needs of the school as a whole
- Parents/carers will be involved at an early stage and throughout any investigation in line with the Safeguarding Policy.
- Support agencies, including the police will be involved as appropriate and in keeping with legal requirements
- A range of responses will be considered including disciplinary and counselling/supportive responses.
- Permanent exclusion will not be the automatic response and will only be used in the most serious cases and as a final resort
- Any action taken will be in line with the school's behaviour policy.
- Decisions about the response will depend on the severity of the situation, whether the offence is one of a series or a first time and whether the person involved is putting themselves and others at risk. The Headteacher, in consultation with key staff will decide whether a disciplinary and/or counselling action should take place.
- Incidents will be reported to the Chair of Governors

Possible responses might be:

### *(i) Support and counselling*

If a pupil has a concern about drugs or has been involved in a drug related incident or is themselves at risk of drug misuse, we will seek support from Early Help and if appropriate refer to a specialist agency.

### *(ii) Sanctions*

Where a school rule related to drug use, is broken, sanctions will be given. The type of sanction will depend on the nature and degree of the offence. Decisions about sanctions will be made by the Headteacher and consistent with the behaviour policy. In the unlikely event of an incident involving illegal drugs, permanent exclusion will be considered and used if needed.

## **Procedures for managing incidents**

### *Reporting a drug-related incident*

All drug-related incidents are reported to the Headteacher.

Although there is no legal obligation to report an incident involving drugs to the police, we will inform Police immediately of any incident involving a suspected illegal drug. Incidents involving legal drugs will remain school matters, although we will contact Trading Standards or the Police about the sale of tobacco, alcohol and solvents to under age students, from local shops.

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## *Recording the drug-related incident*

All drug-related incidents are recorded using a drugs incident form. The form is given to the Headteacher and kept confidential in the school office.

In all drug-related incidents the Headteacher, in consultation with key staff, will decide on the responses, including the use of sanctions and/or counselling and support.

It is very rare for primary-age pupils to misuse drugs in school, however we believe it is important to be prepared should such an incident occur.

## **Medical emergencies when a pupil is unconscious as a result of drug use**

Staff with first aid qualifications should be called immediately but the pupils not left alone. The pupil will be placed in the recovery position and an ambulance called immediately. Parents/carers will be informed immediately.

## **Intoxication, when a pupil is under the influence of a drug**

The pupil will be removed to a quiet room and not left alone. The first aider and Headteacher called. The pupil will be helped to calm down and medical assistance sought immediately. Parents/carers will be informed and called to the school in line with the Safeguarding Policy.

## **Discovery/observation**

When a person is discovered using, supplying or holding a substance that is not permitted on school premises and which is described in this policy.

If the substance is suspected to be illegal, staff can take temporary possession of it

- it will be confiscated, in the presence of a second member of staff as witness
- the sample will be sealed in a plastic bag with details of the date and time of the seizure/find and witness present and stored in a secure location (e.g. a safe or lockable container) with access limited to the Head and Deputy Head
- the pupil will be taken to the school office and the Head or Deputy Head called and the pupils questioned
- the police will be notified immediately, who will collect it and store or dispose of it, in line with locally agreed protocols.
- we will record details of the incident, including the police incident reference number
- we will inform the pupil's parents/carers and they will be asked to come into school, unless it is not in the best interests of the child to do so
- identify any safeguarding concerns and develop a support and sanctions response including internal exclusion whilst investigations are carried out.

If the substance is legal (but unauthorised in school) it will be disposed of or handed to the parent/carer.

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## *Searches*

Staff are allowed to confiscate pupil's property, as a disciplinary sanction, where reasonable to do so, including substances, whether legal or not.

If staff find other substances which are not believed to be illegal/controlled drugs these can be confiscated where staff believe them to be harmful or detrimental to good behaviour.

If school staff are unable to identify the legal status of a drug, it should be treated as an illegal drug.

If a member of staff has reasonable grounds for suspecting that a pupil is carrying illegal drugs on them or in their personal property, they will ask the pupil to voluntarily produce the substance, in the presence of two members of staff. In circumstances where a pupil refuses to do this the member of staff will discuss with the Headteacher who may decide to carry out a search in the presence of another member of staff. The Headteacher is the only person authorised to carry out a search, unless they are not the same sex as the pupil and then the Headteacher will authorise a senior member of staff. The search will take place in school or where staff have lawful control of pupils.

We will keep a record of the search and inform parents if a substance is found, although there is no legal requirement to do this or inform parents before or after a search or seek their consent to search a child.

## *Dealing with drug-taking materials*

School site staff make regular checks of the school grounds and know how to deal with drug-taking materials, including needles, in line with health and safety advice.

Pupils are taught what to do if they come across needles on the school premises and know not to touch needles and to inform a member of staff immediately.

**Disclosure** when a pupil discloses to a member of staff that he/she has been using drugs, or is concerned about someone else's drug use. In these situations, staff will be non-judgemental and caring and will show concern for the pupil. Pupils will be told that teachers cannot promise total confidentiality. The Headteacher or Deputy should be informed as soon as possible so that appropriate support can be found.

**Suspicion/rumour.** Staff should not assume use of drugs on the basis of rumours or behaviour alone. However, if there is a suspicion, evidence will be collected over a period of time before a decision is made to question the pupil(s) involved.

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## **Intoxicated parents/carers**

Our schools rules for drugs apply to all people who are on the school premises and we expect that parents/carers will adhere to these rules. If a parent/carer comes to school and appears to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol, they will be asked to leave. If they have come to collect their child, we will sensitively offer to phone for someone else to come and collect the child. If we are concerned that the child is at risk then we will follow the Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy.

## **Needs of pupils**

We are sensitive to the needs of students whose parent/carers or family members have problems with drugs. Where problems are observed or suspected or a pupil discloses problems, we will assess the pupils' welfare and support needs and if needed, involve external support for the child and, where appropriate, for the family.

## **Confidentiality**

Pupils need to be able to talk in confidence to staff without fear of being judged or told off. The welfare of children will be central to our policy and practice. However, teachers cannot promise total confidentiality in order to seek specialist help if needed. This is made clear to pupils through the PSHE and citizenship programme. Information about a pupil in relation to drugs will follow the same procedure as for other sensitive information. If teachers have any concerns about the welfare of children, they must inform the Headteacher.

## **Working with Parents/Carers**

The school welcomes parents/carers who wish to share with us, their concerns about drugs. Our Drugs Policy is shared on our school website.

Parents/carers will be informed immediately if their child has been involved in a drug-related incidents. However there may be some exceptional situations where involving the parents may put the child at risk and in these cases, the school will exercise some caution. The decision will be taken by the Headteacher/designated child protection officer with the child's welfare a priority.

## **Involving Police**

In most cases a drug-related incident will be a school, rather than a police matter. However the school will contact the West Hampstead Police Station at 07920 233766 immediately if an illegal (or suspected illegal) drug has been found on the school premises, on a pupil or illegal drug dealing is taking place. We will only call 999 in an emergency.

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## Reviewing the Policy

This policy is reviewed every two years by a working group consisting of; the PSHE Lead, staff, governor responsible for drugs issues, Camden's Health and Wellbeing Team, school nurse and Deputy Head.

If an incident should occur, the policy is reviewed in the light of that incident. The review will include feedback from the evaluations of drug education, included in the annual review of PSHE and Citizenship.

## Disseminating the Policy

Parents/carers are made aware of the policy through the newsletter and at meetings when new to the school. The policy is on the school's website. Copies of the policy are in the staff handbook, the Governors' handbook and Policy reference file, in the school office and staff and governors new to the school are made aware of the policy.

External organisations involved in drug education, receive a copy prior to teaching.

<b>Policy reviewed</b>	<b>October 2020</b>
<b>Agreed review schedule</b>	<b>2 years</b>
<b>Next review due</b>	<b>October 2022</b>