



## Drug Policy

**Policy Originator:** PSHE&C Lead

**Review Period:** 3 years

**Next Review Date:** Autumn 2020

### **Aim:**

It is the aim of Frimley Church of England Junior School to help all pupils to be able to live safely in a world where a wide range of drugs exist. We recognise that some drugs have beneficial effects, but also that every drug has potential to harm. For this reason, all drugs need appropriate and responsible care and management. In order to be able to make informed choices, staff and pupils need to understand the nature of drugs, their social and legal status, their uses and effects. This policy applies to the whole School Community, including staff, pupils, parents and visitors. The school is defined as the entirety of the school's buildings, the school grounds, and all school vehicles.

### **Definition of terms**

**drug:** This document uses the term drug to refer to any substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave: all legal drugs including alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances (those giving off a gas or vapour which can be inhaled), all illegal drugs (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016), and over-the-counter and prescription medicines.

**drug use:** The consumption of any drug. All drug use, including medicinal use, carries the potential for harm.

**drug misuse:** The use of a substance for a purpose not consistent with legal or medical guidelines. Drug taking through which harm may occur, whether through intoxication, breach of school rules or the law, or presents an immediate or future risk of harm.

**drug abuse:** Persistent or sporadic excessive drug use inconsistent with or unrelated to acceptable medical practice.

**harmful use:** A pattern of psychoactive substance use that is causing damage to health.

**hazardous use:** A pattern of substance use that increases the risk of harmful consequences for the user.

### **Rationale for Drug Education:**

Drug use and misuse have become increasingly common in our society. Children and young people of school age are part of society and as such the school recognises the need to:

- prepare and equip pupils for life in a drug using society
- deal with the broad range of drug related situations and incidents which may occur in the lives of our pupils and others involved in the life of a school
- set out a proactive rational response towards safeguarding, Drug Education and drug related incidents as we believe that this is more likely to have a positive outcome than a reactive response determined when confronted with a drug use or possession incident
- publicise this policy on the website to ensure that the pupils and community are aware and understand the school's position in relation to Drug Education, drugs and drug related incidents
- ensure that the messages pupils receive in the classroom and from the school's response to a drug incident are consistent with the school values, culture and safeguarding practices

### **Drug Education: Curriculum Provision**

**Aims:** The overall aim of Drug Education at Frimley Church of England School, is to provide opportunities for pupils to develop their knowledge skills, attitudes, values and understanding about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, relating this to their own and others' actions in order to prevent or reduce the harmful consequences of drug misuse.

## Objectives

- to provide accurate information about drugs and the law relating to them
- to increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse of drugs
- to provide opportunities to examine attitudes and values towards drug use
- to promote the development of personal and social skills relating to positive health behaviours and the opportunity to practise them
- to enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support

## How is drug Education to be organised in the curriculum?

- Drug Education is provided within a broader framework of PSHE&C where wider issues of promoting health, positive behaviours for physical and mental health and social responsibility can be addressed and where drug misuse prevention is just one component.
- The school acknowledges that a positive health promoting ethos helps pupils feel valued and part of the school community and, in doing so, helps build self-esteem and resilience that may enable pupils to cope more effectively in drug related situations
- PSHE&C curriculum model: PSHE&C is taught as a discrete subject as well as forming part of additional inputs through assemblies and school themed activities – it is also integrated within the creative curriculum.
- Frimley's PSHE&C Scheme of work covers drug education within Health and Wellbeing.

Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To define and categorise drugs</li><li>• To understand the effects of passive smoking</li><li>• To understand the impact of caffeine</li></ul>
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To understand the effects of smoking</li><li>• To understand the negative effects of smoking</li><li>• To understand the risks associated with drinking alcohol</li></ul>
Year 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To explore the risks and effects of legal and illegal drugs</li><li>• To challenge misconceptions about drug use</li><li>• To know that there are a range of strategies to resist peer pressure</li></ul>
Year 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To understand the effects of alcohol</li><li>• To understand the risks associated with cannabis and volatile substance abuse</li></ul>

- These topics are discussed in each year group and pitched at the appropriate age group.

## Teaching and Learning methods for drug education

In keeping with the school's approach to PSHE&C, a variety of teaching and learning methods are used as appropriate to the topic and needs of the pupils (e.g. brainstorming, role play, group discussion). The PSHE&C Leader will monitor delivery of the programme through observation, learning walks and discussions with teaching staff to ensure consistent and coherent curriculum provision.

## SECTION 2- Legally available substances on site

### Tobacco:

The school operates a no smoking policy at all times throughout the building and grounds in order to protect all members of the school community from the harms of second-hand smoke and to prevent the uptake of, and reduce the prevalence of, smoking across the school community. Smoking is not permitted in any part of the school's premises and grounds including the entrance area to the school, on land adjacent to the school building (e.g. car parks, garden areas, walkways, playgrounds, playing fields etc). Smoking is not permitted in any school owned/hired/leased vehicles, as well as private vehicles when used for carrying students or staff on school business. This is a statutory requirement. The use of e-cigarettes is not permitted in any part of the school premises and grounds. There are no designated smoking areas provided within the school buildings or grounds. Suitable posters, displays and statutory no smoking signage will be displayed in school areas to create a positive visual message which supports a smoke-free working environment. This Policy applies when students are taken off site on school excursions/visits/trips. Staff and accompanying helpers will be reminded that smoking is not permitted when on duty and looking after students.

### Alcohol:

The consumption of alcohol during the working day is prohibited for all members of the school community.

The Headteacher must be consulted and permission obtained before arranging any functions at which alcohol may be consumed. As a rule, alcohol should not be consumed at any function where pupils are present but this is left to the

careful discretion of the Headteacher for each event.

**Medication: over the counter and prescribed drugs:**

See the Health Safety and Welfare Policy & Arrangements for Frimley Church of England School document and the Supporting Children with Medical conditions policy.

**School excursions (day and residential)**

The school's policy on drugs applies to all school excursions, trips, visits and excursions.

**SECTION 3- Responding to drug related incidents:**

The school strongly believes that drug misuse, possession and/or distribution has no place in schools, it must be detected as early as possible and that the pupils, staff and community should be aware of the consequences of any such actions.

**What is the school's responsibility in relation to drug incidents?**

The school will consider each drug incident individually and recognises that a variety of responses will be necessary to deal with incidents. It will consider very carefully the implications of any action it may take. The school seeks to balance the interests of the pupils involved, the other school members and the local community.

**Emergency situations:**

If a pupil is deemed to be at serious risk of harm as a result of drug misuse (e.g. collapsed, unconscious) the following course of action should be taken:

- notify reception by the fastest possible means to call an ambulance and briefly outline the cause of the emergency
- summon help immediately from another member of staff and send for a first aider
- provide emergency aid to pupil as appropriate
- notify the Headteacher /DSL
- notify the pupil's parents/carers
- remove, in the presence of an adult witness, any suspicious substances/equipment and retain in case they are required by ambulance staff
- record the incident in the school's medical book/complete an incident form
- a written report will be given to the Headteacher, and head of year
- the Designated Safeguarding Lead will be informed who will follow the school's Safeguarding Policy to make sure the incident is recorded appropriately and follow up actions in line with SSCB's procedures.

**Intoxication:**

- The pupil will be removed to a quiet room and be accompanied by a member of staff at all times
- A first aider will be called and further medical help summoned if necessary
- Parents/carers will be informed and called to the school to collect the pupil and advised to visit their GP
- The incident will be recorded in the school medical book/incident form completed
- A written report will be provided for key staff as above
- The Designated Safeguarding Leads will be informed who will follow the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy to make sure the incident is recorded appropriately and follow up actions in line with SSCB's procedures
- With the consent of the young person, they may be referred with to Catch 22, or the most appropriate service.

**Discovery/observation:**

- If a pupil is discovered possessing, using or dealing any substance not permitted in school (s)he will be escorted to/approached by a senior member of staff
- The senior member of staff will seek to remove any suspicious substances from the pupil (in the presence of an adult witness) or to secure the voluntary production of any substances believed to be concealed on the pupil's person. (Intimate physical searches should not be made by any teacher). Any substance taken possession of will be sealed in a labelled plastic bag, signed by the witness present with the date and time added
- The situation will be investigated promptly and thoroughly and a written record made
- The pupil will be kept out of class/away from peers but supervised by an adult at all times. The pupil will be informed that the situation is a serious one (particularly if the substance in question is believed to be an illegal one) and that parents (and police) will be informed and asked to attend the school
- The Headteacher will be notified who, in turn, will sanction appropriate interim pastoral and disciplinary

measures and notify the pupil's parents

- If the substance is/ or is suspected of being illegal, the Headteacher will call the local police to help with identification of the substance and give appropriate police involvement
- The governing body of the school will subsequently be informed

#### **Disclosure:**

A pupil may disclose to a member of staff that (s)he has been using drugs or is concerned about someone else's drug use.

**Concern for the pupil's welfare will be paramount** but in line with the school Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy staff will not be able to promise complete confidentiality and should make this known to any pupil seeking such an assurance. Information about a pupil in relation to drugs will follow the same procedure as for other sensitive information. The DSL will be informed and further help sought if appropriate. The pupil may be referred to a drugs or counselling agency/intervention programme (that is part of a community, multi-agency support network to the school) and/or referred to the Catch 22 service.

#### **Suspicion/Hearsay:**

Any hearsay/rumour about pupil drug use will be carefully evaluated in the light of the school's own knowledge about the pupil and sensitively investigated before any possible action is taken. If staff believe the rumour to be unfounded steps will be taken to challenge the rumour and its effects, e.g.

- challenging the behaviour that might have led to the rumour
- challenging those responsible for circulating ill-formed information
- challenging the environment in which rumours breed

If the rumour is found to be true, the same procedures will be taken as outlined in the previous section for disclosure of drug use.

If there is suspicion of a pupil misusing drugs the pupil will be observed and monitored over a period of time before deciding on appropriate action to be taken. Recordings of pupil observations will be carried out by the staff member(s) making the observations and will adhere to the following principles:

- a) they will be specific
- b) they will be non-judgmental (i.e. descriptive rather than interpretative)
- c) they will be objective
- d) they will be factual
- e) they will be dated, time specific and signed
- f) they will be designed to show pattern, nature, locations and frequency of the perceived behaviour

#### **Substance misusing parents:**

The school recognises that some of its pupils may have a parent/carer whose drug use (legal and/or illegal) is problematic. The child's welfare in this case is paramount and the school will act, within the legal limits that it can, to support the child in a variety of ways, both practically and emotionally.

If a member of staff suspects that a parent collecting their child from school and intending to drive is intoxicated the police advice is that efforts should be calmly made to help the parent think of alternative, safer ways of getting home. This might include walking home, getting somebody else to collect them or calling a taxi. If the parent becomes aggressive and insists on driving on no account should staff put their own safety or security at risk. If possible staff should note down details of the car and phone the police with this information as soon as possible.

**Links to other Policies and Advice** - This Drug Policy is supported by, but not limited to:

PSHE&C Policy

Behaviour Management Policy

Health Safety and Welfare Policy & Arrangements for Frimley Church of England School document

Supporting Children with Medical conditions policy

Child protection and Safeguarding Policy

Searching screening and confiscation advice – DfE

Use of Reasonable Force – DfE

Drug Advice for Schools – DfE and ACPO

#### **Review of this policy**

This policy is reviewed at least every 3 years and also in the light of any incident that may occur relating to drugs or any

new findings arising from educational research, local or national guidance.

**Autumn 2017**