Greenmount Primary School

Policy for

Drug Education and the Management of Drug Related Incidents in School

Chronology:
This replaces the policy agreed on 12th February 2018
This policy was discussed by the Finance, Premises and Staffing Committee on 30th November 2020
This policy was ratified at the meeting of the Full Governing Body on 8th February 2021.
This policy will be reviewed by the Finance, Premises and Staffing Committee in the Autumn term of 2023

The definition of a drug is:
A substance which people take to change the way they feel think, or behave (United Nations)

The purpose of this policy is to:
- clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities of the school
- reinforce and safeguard the health, well being and safety of pupils and others who use the school
- clarify the school's approach to drugs & drugs education for all staff, pupils, governors, parents/carers, external agencies and the wider community
- inform staff, parents and pupils on the management of drug related Incidents

This policy has been developed in consultation staff from the Bury Healthy Schools Team. Elements of drugs education will link to the following school policies: -

- PSHE
- Child Protection
- Administration of Medicines
- Health & Safety
- Discipline/Behaviour
- Safeguarding

Substances covered by this policy are:

- Tobacco
- Alcohol
- Other legal drugs like caffeine, which may produce hyperactivity in some children
- Over the counter medicines e.g. paracetamol or cough medicines
- Prescription medicines e.g. tranquillisers, Ritalin, amphetamines, anabolic steroids
- Volatile (sniffable) substances e.g. petrol, poppers (alkyl nitrates) butane gas & aerosols
- Illegal drugs e.g. cannabis, ecstasy, heroin, cocaine, LSD, amphetamine sulphate and magic mushrooms

Premises / School Boundaries
The principles outlined in the policy relate to all circumstances in which school staff are responsible for pupils, including off site educational visits, including residentials.

The school's boundaries during school hours are:

- The main building
- The GOOSE building
- The playgrounds
- The car park
- The school fields

POLICY STATEMENTS

Tobacco

This school is a non-smoking environment.

In line with current legislation, smoking is not permitted on any part of the school premises, including the playground and other outside areas by any member of the school community, parents or other visitors. Our school does not permit the use of electronic cigarettes.

Alcohol

Alcohol is not allowed nor can be consumed on school premises whilst it is open for pupils. For events such as those run by the PTA, alcohol may be served to and consumed by over 18s provided that the relevant licences have been obtained.

Medicines

Please see Policy for Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions.

Staff are asked to inform the head teacher if they have any medications on site.

Illegal, Illicit Drugs and Solvents

Our school will not condone the use, misuse, preparation or supply of any illegal, illicit or legal substance, which is likely to damage health, on any part of the school premises by any member of the school community.

DRUG EDUCATION

The Context for Drug Education

Drug education should enable pupils to develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, relating this to their own and others' actions.

Drug education should take account of pupils' views, so that it is both appropriate to their age and ability, and relevant to their particular circumstances.

Drug education in the classroom should be supported by a whole school approach that includes the school's values and ethos, staff training and the involvement of pupils, staff, parents/carers, governors and the wider community.

Drugs Education Programme

1. Aims and objectives of the drug education programme

In England & Wales, drug education forms part of the statutory order for National Curriculum Science and Health Education & RSE. This requires that all maintained schools provide some basic education about drugs.

Specifically, it requires that pupils:

- recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function (Science - Year 6)
- are taught "the facts about legal and illegal substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking" (Health Education and RSE – Topic 5)

We will provide a range of opportunities and experiences for pupils to develop attitudes, values and skills and to gain knowledge to help them to:

- Improve their self esteem
- Make informed choices and decisions
- Develop personal initiative and be able to take responsibility
- Recognise personal skills and qualities in themselves and others
- Maintain and develop relationships
- Develop self-confidence
- Develop assertiveness in appropriate situations
- Develop the motivation to succeed
- Develop an age appropriate knowledge about all types of substances

Inclusion and meeting the needs of all pupils are key issues

2. Consultation and ongoing involvement with pupils, parents and the wider school community

The school will arrange routine visits from outside agencies, including the local police liaison officer. Annual visits will also be arranged to the 'Crucial Crew' event (when available) which supports work on drugs education and personal safety.

3. Involving outside speakers

The headteacher is responsible for liaising with outside speakers and monitoring the quality of their contributions.

4. Designing the curriculum/schemes of work

It is for schools to decide how drug education is organised within their curriculum design and timetabling. The coordinator for drug education (PSHE co-ordinator), together with colleagues will prepare schemes of work for drug education that show how the requirements for drug education within PSHE education and in the National Curriculum are covered.

A well-structured curriculum design and schemes of work for drug education ensures that:

- There are some units of work focused on drug education for each year
- There is progression year-on-year, building on earlier learning
- Topics are introduced in a logical order
- Emotional and social skills and development of values is included as well as knowledge and understanding
- There is discrete time for drug education and adequate allocation for PSHE education in the timetable
- Links with other curriculum subjects can be anticipated and used to enrich learning
- Learning outcomes are documented
- Opportunities for assessment for and of learning are built in to enable teachers and pupils to evaluate progress (e.g. Jugs & Herrings).

5. Liaison with other schools

Schools should liaise with their feeder and receiver schools to ensure continuity and progression across the phases, and with colleges where pupils study part-time under the increased flexibility programme for 14-16 year olds. The Healthy Schools Co-ordinator & Drugs Education Consultant can assist with liaison, training and support. Any liason training and support should take account of the values and ethos of the host school or FE college, and must be age appropriate. **The transition from primary to secondary is particularly important; drug education in Years 7 and 8 should reinforce and build upon drug education in primary schools.**

6. Teaching methods

Drug education shares the features of well-taught lessons in any subject. The core principles of teaching and learning are:

- ensure that every pupil succeeds: provide an inclusive education within a culture of high expectations
- build on what learners already know: structure and pace teaching so that students know what is to be learnt and how
- make learning vivid and real: develop understanding through enquiry, e-learning and group problem-solving
- make learning an enjoyable and challenging experience: stimulate learning by matching teaching techniques and strategies to a range of learning styles
- enrich the learning experience: infuse learning skills across the Curriculum
- promote assessment for learning: make children partners in their learning.

7. Ground rules/group agreement

It is important that drug education is delivered within a safe, secure and supportive environment. A group agreement, established and reviewed periodically through discussion with pupils, helps to foster mutual respect and an environment in which pupils feel comfortable and ready to listen to and discuss others' opinions. Ground rules should cover issues such as teachers' and pupils' right to privacy and respect, and the boundaries of discussion. Pupils (and teachers) should be discouraged from revealing any personal information that may incriminate them and others, or that they wish to remain confidential. Setting and agreeing ground rules is an important opportunity to remind pupils of ways to ask for help, the support available, the school's confidentiality policy and what may happen should information be disclosed.

8. Inclusive, promoting equality and acceptance of diversity

Schools should plan drug education which has relevance for all pupils and which takes into account the Equalities Act 2010.

Teachers need to ensure that the programme includes a variety of teaching methods and strategies that cater for the range of attainment levels of their pupils and their diverse needs. Teachers need to be sensitive to the fact that pupils may have varying attitudes towards drugs which are influenced by their cultural and religious backgrounds and their life experiences, values and beliefs.

9. Self review, monitoring and evaluation

The school is committed to providing effective drug education and recognises the importance of monitoring and evaluating the programme. The Drugs Education co-ordinator monitors the programme, through lesson observations and pupil feedback.

See our long term Curriculum plan for further information about drugs education through Science and PSHE.

THE MANAGEMENT OF DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS

- **Roles & Responsibilities**
  The headteacher is the drugs education co-ordinator and is responsible for managing drug related incidents. In his absence, it becomes the responsibility of the deputy headteacher. The Chair of Governors is the responsible governor – details on school website or from school office.

- **Responding to an incident**
  The school follows the LEA Guidance "Talking Drugs" on assessment, responses, sanctions and emergency procedures.

- **Confidentiality / Contacting Parents**
  In the event of a pupil being involved in a drug related incident, parents will normally be contacted immediately. However, if the school considers a child to be "at risk" as a result of any disclosure, they reserve the right to involve another outside agency.

- **Suspicion/evidence that a child or young person has been involved in substance misuse**
  In all cases of suspected substance misuse, the health & safety of the pupil will be paramount. If there is any doubt about a pupil's well being, emergency procedures will be instigated immediately.

  Once the pupil's immediate needs have been addressed, the schools drug co-ordinator will make a full assessment of the situation and co-ordinate a response. This may involve referral to other agencies completion of a CAF etc.

- **Support**
  In cases where a pupil has been identified as having an involvement with drugs, a referral will be made to Early Break, the drug & alcohol service for young people.

- **Information sharing**
  If a pupil discloses information which is sensitive, not generally known, and which the pupil asks not to be passed on, the request will be honoured unless this is unavoidable in order for staff to fulfil their professional responsibilities in relation to:

  - local procedures to safeguard children
  - co-operating with a police investigation
  - referral to external services.

  Every effort will be made to secure the pupil's agreement to the way in which the school intends to use any sensitive information.

  It may be necessary to invoke local safeguarding procedures if a pupil's safety is under threat. It will be only in exceptional circumstances that sensitive information is passed on against a pupil's wishes, and even then the school will inform the pupil first and endeavour to explain why this needs to happen. These exceptions are defined by a moral or professional duty to act:

  - where there is a child protection issue
  - where a life is in danger.

- **Contacting the Police**
  In any school setting it is always advisable to develop good working relationships with the police. In non-emergency situations, contact with the police should in the first instance be through the Safer Schools Officer at Prestwich Police station or the Drug Co-ordinator at Bury police station. These officers are available to support schools with advice and guidance on the management of drug incidents. Simply telephoning the central police number, could trigger a sequence of events, which may be detrimental to the school, the pupil and their family.

  Neither the LA nor the police in Bury are in favour of young people being arrested on school premises. The officer involved will therefore assist teachers in ensuring that any incident is dealt with promptly and sensitively. If, in exceptional circumstances a young person is to face prosecution, an arrest will be made at their home or at a police station at a later time.

  N.B. "consumption" or "intoxication" is not an offence.

  The police do not have an automatic right to enter private premises, however there are several situations where they can lawfully enter:
  - with consent of the occupier
  - with a search warrant
  - to arrest someone for an "arrestable offence" - drugs come within this definition
  - on and immediately following an arrest to search premises for evidence

  The police can search a person after an arrest or if that person agrees. The police also have a power of "stop and search" in relation to suspected drug offences.

- **Taking temporary possession of and disposal of suspected illicit (a drug which may be legal, but which people may choose to misuse) or illegal drugs**
  Many areas already have agreed protocols with local police and schools on the collection and disposal of suspected illicit or illegal drugs, and schools should follow these.

  The law permits school staff to take temporary possession of a substance suspected of being a legal or illegal drug for the purposes of preventing an offence from being committed or continued in relation to that drug, providing that all reasonable steps are taken to destroy the drug or deliver it to a person lawfully entitled to take custody of it.

  In taking temporary possession and disposing of suspected illicit or illegal drugs -:

  schools are advised to:

  - ensure that a second adult witness is present throughout;
  - seal the substance in a plastic bag and include details of the date and time of the seizure/find and witnesses present.
  - store it in a secure location, such as the school safe or other lockable container with access limited to two senior members of staff and
  - without delay notify the police, who will collect it and dispose of it in line with locally agreed protocols.

N.B. The law does not require a school to divulge to the police the name of the pupil from whom the drugs were taken.

Where a pupil is identified, the police will be required to follow set internal procedures.

- record full details of the incident, including the police incident reference number
- inform parents/carers, unless this would jeopardise the safety of the pupil

School staff should not attempt to analyse or taste unknown substances.

- **Drug using Equipment found on school premises**
  Gloves should be always worn when handling needles or drug using paraphernalia

  Any drug using equipment e.g. bongs or buckets found on premises should be removed immediately and disposed of in a bin well away from the young people.

  Needles or syringes should be placed in a secure container (for example a tin with a lid or jam jar) or a properly constructed "sharps bin" and locked in a safe place until arrangements can be made with the Environmental Health Department to collect them.

- **Parental involvement in drug or alcohol misuse**
  If this school becomes aware of parents or carer's involvement in drug or alcohol misuse, which is having a detrimental effect on a pupil, they will take all necessary steps to gain support for the child and their family.

  The Head teacher and the appropriate members of staff e.g. the class teacher or child protection lead will work together to plan an appropriate response and/or support package and possible referral to other agencies as necessary

- **Staff conduct and drugs**
  This section should be read in conjunction with the "Alcohol and Drug Policy" (Management Handbook 2.1 – revised January 2008).

  Our school is a smoke-free environment. Staff and visitors to the school are not allowed to smoke in the school grounds. There is no provision for a smoking area for staff.

  When attending a residential visit with pupils, the governing body does not permit staff to consume alcohol during the course of the visit.

  The welfare of staff with a drug problem is also an issue for schools. The NHSS includes standards for schools to address the professional, health and welfare needs of staff and for ensuring that arrangements are in place for appropriate occupational health advice and support.

Appendix 1

Useful contact details

Early Break Drug & Alcohol Service for young people	**Tel: 0161-762-2680** **Email:** info@earlybreak.co.uk
Police Drugs Co-ordinator Bury Police Station	**Tel: 0161-856-8177**
Licensing Officer Bury Police Station	**Tel: 0161-856-6803**
Connexions Bury	**Tel: 0161-253-7733**
FRANK Drugs help line for young people and their families	**Tel: 0800 776600**