

Lovelace Primary School
Drug Education and Responding to Drug Related Incident Policy

Date agreed: 24 May 2022

Date of next review: May 2024

Signature of Headteacher: *signed copies are held in the school office*

Signature on behalf of Governing Body (Chair / or chair of committee): *signed copies are held in the school office*

Lovelace Primary School recognises that drug and substance misuse is a threat to the health and well-being of individuals, families and the wider community. It is therefore essential as part of an education for life that we include Drug Education within our school based Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education. As part of our curriculum work in PHSE, Science and in working towards our Healthy Schools accreditations we endeavour at all times to ensure children are empowered to get: 'Smarter, Healthier and Happier'. We have a responsibility to inform our children of the facts relating to the substances they will and do encounter in their environment. In many cases they will have already experienced the effect of drugs in the adults around them. It is important that we are sensitive to the experiences that children may have.

In drafting this policy we referred to DFE advice

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/270169/drug_advice_for_schools.pdf

We will not tolerate the misuse of drugs within the schools and its grounds. This includes adults who come on to the school premises and may be intoxicated or in possession of illegal drugs. Our school is a no-smoking area and we request all adults to refrain from smoking around the premises. This has also been extended to after-school fund-raising events. We recognise that some of our children and parents need a variety of medicines and appropriate arrangements are made to enable the correct distribution of these. Further information can be found in our health and safety policy.

This drug policy is part of our overall approach to health and well-being. Through our PHSE and C curriculum and through circle time and school ethos, we aim to ensure that children recognise the importance of what they choose to eat and drink and the effect which this can have. Self-respect and a healthy lifestyle are all part of an approach which will enable our children to make the right choices for themselves and their families - now and in the future.

A number of other policies link to this policy and also cover issues in more detail: Health and Safety Policy (includes first aid, administration of medicines and No Smoking Policy), Safeguarding and Child Protection.

Definition of 'drugs' for the benefit of this policy

The term refers to:

- All illegal drugs
- All legal drugs, including alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances
- All over the counter and prescription medicines

Aims

- To provide the information and support for children to be able to make lifestyle choices to be 'smarter, healthier and happier'
- To encourage a supportive ethos in which issues can be discussed and questions answered
- Ensure the safety of staff and pupils when on the school site Provide appropriate role models and examples to illustrate a healthy lifestyle
- Take a firm stance against illegal drugs
- Raise awareness for children of the importance of their choices in forging a healthy lifestyle.
- Recognise the valuable role that medication can have
- Acknowledge that not all family members may make healthy choices and some of the reasons why
- Enable children to develop a self-awareness and realise the power they have to determine their own lives
- Provide a whole school approach to issues of leading a safe and healthy life
- Draw attention to the effect which peers can have upon the decisions that we make and the need to take a considered approach to this
- Alert children to ways of seeking additional help and support where necessary

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- Ensure that children have access to balanced information and views against which they can clarify their own opinions
- To help children establish the difference between fact, opinion and beliefs

Curriculum and Teaching Approach at Lovelace - PHSE

Drug Education is an integral part of our formal curriculum and is covered through our PSHE and Citizenship, science and SMSC schemes of work. Within our PHSE programme it is as follows:

This scheme uses the definition that a drug is: '*A substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave*' (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime).

The term 'Drugs' includes:

- All illegal drugs
- All legal drugs including alcohol, tobacco and volatile substances which can be inhaled
- All over-the-counter and prescription medicines

Effective Drug and Alcohol Education can make a significant contribution to the development of the knowledge, personal skills and values needed by pupils as they grow up. It also enables young people to make responsible and informed decisions about their health and well-being.

Term	Puzzle name	Content
Autumn 1:	Being Me in My World	Includes understanding my place in the class, school and global community as well as devising Learning Charters
Autumn 2:	Celebrating Difference	Includes anti-bullying (cyber and homophobic bullying included) and diversity work
Spring 1:	Dreams and Goals	Includes goal-setting, aspirations, working together to design and organise fund-raising events
Spring 2:	Healthy Me	Includes drugs and alcohol education, self-esteem and confidence as well as healthy lifestyle choices
Summer 1:	Relationships	Includes understanding friendship, family and other relationships, conflict resolution and communication skills
Summer 2:	Changing Me	Includes Sex and Relationship Education in the context of looking at change

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Jigsaw Content:

The grid below shows specific Drug and Alcohol Education learning intentions for each year group in the 'Healthy Me' Puzzle.

Year Group	Piece Number and Name	Learning Intentions 'Pupils will be able to...'
2	Piece 3 Medicine Safety	understand how medicines work in my body and how important it is to use them safely feel positive about caring for my body and keeping it healthy
3	Piece 3 What Do I Know About Drugs?	tell you my knowledge and attitude towards drugs identify how I feel towards drugs
4	Piece 3 Smoking	understand the facts about smoking and its effects on health, and also some of the reasons some people start to smoke

		can relate to feelings of shame and guilt and know how to act assertively to resist pressure from myself and others
	Piece 4 Alcohol	understand the facts about alcohol and its effects on health, particularly the liver, and also some of the reasons some people drink alcohol can relate to feelings of shame and guilt and know how to act assertively to resist pressure from myself and others
5	Piece 1 Smoking	know the health risks of smoking and can tell you how tobacco affects the lungs, liver and heart make an informed decision about whether or not I choose to smoke and know how to resist pressure
	Piece 2 Alcohol	know some of the risks with misusing alcohol, including anti-social behaviour, and how it affects the liver and heart make an informed decision about whether or not I choose to drink alcohol and know how to resist pressure
6	Piece 2 Drugs	know about different types of drugs and their uses and their effects on the body particularly the liver and heart be motivated to find ways to be happy and cope with life's situations without using drugs
	Piece 3 Alcohol	evaluate when alcohol is being used responsibly, anti-socially or being misused tell you how I feel about using alcohol when I am older and my reasons for this

Approaches to Teaching – Pedagogy:

As well as the Jigsaw PHSE approach, there are a number of ways in which we aim to help children understand the implication of drug use and misuse. We recognise that drugs impinge on many of our children's lives in a variety of ways and the subject needs careful handling. We are also aware of the impact of national initiatives and publicity campaigns e.g. <http://www.nhs.uk/smokefree> or <https://www.nhs.uk/better-health/>

Children are often concerned if their own parents smoke or drink alcohol. We aim to involve different deliverers in providing different perspectives on the issue and to provide opportunities for children to ask questions and share their existing knowledge. There may be many misconceptions which will need to be addressed in a sensitive and factual way. Where teachers are unsure it is acceptable to refrain from answering the question until further clarification can be sought. The methods we use include:

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Circle time

These informal opportunities are taken to enable children to discuss topical issues as they arise in the media, at home and in the locality. The teacher facilitates the discussion, handles any remarks leading to possible disclosures and establishes ground rules. Circle time provides a particularly good opportunity to discuss issues raised in the more formal Science curriculum. On occasions issues will also have been raised through literature that the children have been reading.

Junior Citizen

Each year our year 6 children also take part in Junior Citizen, our local citizenship programme. Here they will also deal with issues related to drug education.

School Nurse / Your Healthcare

Our school nursing service may provide on hand to support individual cases and families. She also helps to deliver aspects of our drugs education by providing some medical information about the effect and use of medicines within our society

Using fiction

At different times picture books are used as a resource to help support the PHSE and C curriculum and to open up discussion in the nurture group. Using stories enables discussion about issues which can be quite sensitive without appearing to target any individual.

National Curriculum Science

Drugs and alcohol education is linked with National Curriculum Science programmes of study in the following areas;

Key Stage 1 - The role of drugs and alcohol as medicines - That humans need food and water to stay alive
Key Stage 2 - That tobacco, alcohol and other drugs can have harmful effects.

Key Stage 3 - the effects of recreational drugs (including substance misuse) on behaviour, health and life processes.

Key Stage 4 - Health, disease and the development of medicines.

Drama

Drama provides an excellent opportunity through role-play and improvisation to explore some of the issues relating to the use of drugs. Children can engage with one another to explore the feelings that individuals in different scenarios might have. On occasions role play might be used as part of a class assembly.

In the event of disclosure

There may be times during discussions about drugs when children make disclosures either about themselves or their parents / family. Where this is the case the teacher should sensitively listen to what the child has to say whilst also avoiding further disclosure in front of the class. At the end of the lesson it might be appropriate to spend some time with the child allowing them opportunity to speak but following the child protection policy, not asking questions or writing down at this stage. Confidentiality cannot be promised.

As soon as is reasonable, the class teacher should pass on their own concerns to the designated person who will follow the agreed procedure for disclosure handling by contacting the Designated Safeguarding Lead in person or through CPOMS. The class teacher should always ensure they remain calm and should not appear shocked by what children might have to say. It is important that children understand the ground rules during any discussion and that they do not put pressure upon one another to reveal personal information.

Drug use on the premises

Our school makes it clear that drug use on the premises is NOT acceptable except in the case of prescribed medication which is known to the school leadership team. This includes:

- Smoking or e-cigarette / vaping use on or around the school premises either during the school day or during evening events
- Alcohol on the school site during the school day
- Alcohol consumed by visitors / adults in the playground during the school day
- Adults on the school premises who are evidently under the influence of alcohol / intoxicated or substances so much so that it impairs their judgement or conduct
- Persons in known possession of alcohol or illegal substances around the school premises

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

- the Headteacher and Deputy will be informed immediately
- All situations will be carefully considered with the DSL before deciding on the response
- 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
- 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.
- 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 relevant governor committee

At all times the safety of the children remains the key factor in any decision made whilst staff should also be alert to the danger they may bring on themselves by certain courses of action. Any repeat of transgressions might be referred to the LA in order for legal action to be taken.

If there is concern that parents collecting a child may potentially place that child at risk the school can, in extreme circumstances, refuse to hand over the pupil. The appropriate services would then be notified immediately.

Drug use by pupils

It is very rare for primary school pupils to be identified as taking non-medicinal drugs. However, on occasions it might come to the attention of staff that children have been smoking or drinking in the company, on occasions of adolescents who are. Each case should be taken individually and the appropriate course of action decided by a senior member of staff. Alternatives include:

- Use of the school behaviour policy
- Referral to parents
- Referral to the police
- Referral to the Single Point of Access
- Counselling and support for individual children

A combination of the above might be used. Decisions will be based upon the immediate and long-term safety of the child involved and the nature and time of the incidents. Parental involvement in any discussion is crucial except where the incident is one considered to relate to child protection. In this case the child protection policy should be followed and immediate referral made.

Schools have specific powers to screen and search pupils and to confiscate items they find under certain circumstances. Lovelace will follow the DFE guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/searching-screening-and-confiscation>

If drugs are found on school premises:

Needles/ sharps

These will be removed by the identified member of staff using thick leather gardening gloves and placed in a 'sharps box'.

Alcohol and tobacco

Parents/ carers will normally be informed and the items confiscated and destroyed.

Illegal drugs

Temporary possession of these should be taken in the presence of another adult. The drug should be sealed in a plastic bag with details of the time and date when found. The police should then be notified. They should then be kept in the locked cabinet in the school office until it can be collected.

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Special Needs

It is appropriate that all children have access to the information covered in our drugs education programme. Arrangement should be made within classrooms to enable this to happen either through additional TA support or the adaptation of curriculum materials. In most cases the largely discursive nature of the subject will mean that all children have equal access. It should be noted that some children will need to use medication regularly as part of their own special needs. This might be for either physical or emotional reasons. Care should be taken at all times to draw a distinction between different types of drug use and enable children to see the value that drugs can have in our society to large groups of people. There might be opportunities for individuals with first-hand experience of taking medication for particular ailments to share their experiences and discuss some of the side effects and benefits that such reliance at times can have. Any such involvement should be discussed with the child concerned and their parents.

Parental Involvement

Parents are invited to inspect the school drug policy and representatives support the Governing Body in making decisions about drugs education practice. Parents are informed about their children's curriculum on a termly basis. This includes an overview of drug education coverage. Where parents do have concerns they should be invited into school to share these and to see any materials that are being used.

Monitoring

The leadership team and year leaders will monitor the progress of planning and learning and any incidents in school. Work trawls and observations provide insight into the children's understanding and the quality of delivery. Discussion as part of the nurture group and school council provides additional anecdotal information. In addition the PSHE and Science leaders receive information through:

- Work book looks and observations
- Learning walks
- Pupil work
- Talking with pupils
- CPD meetings and training
- Staff and year meeting discussions

The PHSE and Science leaders provide feedback on curriculum development to Governors' Curriculum Sub-Committee when appropriate. This policy should be reviewed if new local or national guidance is issued.

Helpful Links

<https://www.gettingiton.org.uk/services/kingston/afc-young-people-s-drug-and-alcohol-service>

alcoholconcern.org.uk

A UK charity aiming to combat alcohol misuse and providing services for problem drinkers and their families.

alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk

The official UK website for Alcoholics Anonymous.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/talking-drugs-alcohol/children-and-drugs/>

Drugwise.org.uk

DrugWise is the UK's leading centre of expertise on drugs. The site provides balanced and up-to-date drug information to professionals and the public.

nacoa.org.uk

This website offers information, advice and support to children of problem drinkers. Also provides useful information for professionals who deal with children of problem drinkers in their everyday work – educating them as to their specific needs.

www.nta.nhs.uk

The National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse (NTA) (now part of Public Health England) aims to improve the availability, capacity and effectiveness of drug treatment in England

talktofrank.com

FRANK is a national drug education service jointly established by the Department of Health and Home Office. It is intended to reduce the use of both legal and illegal drugs by providing information on drugs and alcohol.