



Drugs and Substance Misuse Policy September 2021

Date Agreed by Governors: _____

Review Date: _____

Signed: _____ (Chair of Governors)

Signed: _____ (Headteacher)

Rights Respecting links:

Article 3: The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect them.

Article 4: Governments must do all they can to make sure every child can enjoy their rights.

Article 6: Every child has the right to life. Governments must do all they can to ensure that children survive and develop to their full potential.

Article 12: Children have the right to have a say in all matters affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously.

Article 19: Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

Article 24: Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy.

Article 25: Governments must provide extra money for children in need.

Article 28: Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free.

Article 29: Education must develop every child's personality, talent and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own need and others.

Article 33: Governments must protect children from the illegal use of drugs and from being involved in the production or distribution of drugs.

Context

This policy is developed as part of a whole school ethos to develop healthy children with high self-esteem who are able to take responsibility for their own learning, behaviours and actions. It links to our

- Health & Safety Policy
- Positive Behaviour Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- National Healthy School Standard
- School Policy on Medicines in School
- Curriculum Policy including Science and PSHCE and Relationships

The policy has been developed using national and local guidance, including 'Drugs – Guidance for Schools' DfES 2004, NHSS guidelines, LA guidelines, QCA schemes of work in Science, the framework for PSHCE, and QCA, DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools 2012.

Aims and Objectives:

- Clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities of the school
- Reinforce and safeguard the health & safety of pupils and others who use the school
- Clarify the school's approach to drugs for staff, pupils, governors, parents/carers and the wider community
- Give guidance on developing, implementing and monitoring the drug education programme
- Enable staff to manage any drug related incidents on the premises

- Ensure that the response to drug-related incidents complements the approach to drug education and values and ethos of the school
- Provide a basis for evaluating the school drug education programme and management of drug-related incidents
- Reflect the schools approach to health as part of the NHSS

The drug policy applies to the school and immediate area within our railings, including pupils, staff, governors, parents/carers, and anyone else visiting the school. It also includes all pupils and staff/helpers on school trips.

Definition:

A substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave.

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.

School Statement:

Sherdley Primary School finds it unacceptable within the school premises or grounds to introduce, sell or use illegal drugs or to misuse legal drugs or substances. Appropriate steps will be taken to deal with any drug-related incidents which may occur, observed or be reported.

The school has a policy on the administration of prescription medicines when necessary and long term medication, which conforms to LA guidelines.

The first concern in managing drugs is the health & safety of the school community and meeting the pastoral needs of pupils.

Key Staff:

Mr Gawne Head Teacher
 Mrs Bennett Deputy Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead
 Mrs Stroud Assistant Head and SENCO / Pastoral Lead

The following staff will oversee and coordinate any issues regarding drugs in school. Mr Gawne and Mrs Bennett will coordinate and monitor any searches, of school, pupils or school property, that may need to take place in school. In their absence, Mrs Stroud will seek advice regarding this.

Management of drugs in school:

Any use of illegal or unauthorised drugs, including tobacco and e-cigarettes, are not acceptable at any time within the boundary of the school and other situations where staff are supervising pupils e.g. off-site activities, visits and school trips.

- Prescribed medicines for pupils who need to take them are kept with Miss Gaffney – Lead First Aider. Some medication is kept in the fridge in the school office if it required to be kept cold. Medical Conditions policy and Individual Care Plans. Prescribed drugs will be administered to children by appropriate staff at prescribed times. Inhalers for children are kept by the children in their classrooms.
- Sherdley Primary School has a no-smoking policy and has a responsibility to promote a healthy life-style. Although e-cigarettes are not covered by smoking legislation, their use is also not allowed on school premises by staff, parent/carers, contractors or visitors.
- Alcohol will not be kept or consumed on school premises.

- No illegal drugs, including psychoactive substances, are allowed to be brought on to, or used on school premises. To protect the health and safety of the school community regular checks will be made of the site to ensure drug paraphernalia, particularly needles and syringes, are cleared away safely and legally
- If a teacher is concerned that a pupil is at risk from drugs misuse then he/she should speak to the Headteacher – Tom Gawne and/or Katie Bennett - Deputy Head & Designated Safeguarding Lead. If neither are available or on site, please inform Jill Stroud Assistant Head & Deputy Designated Safeguard Lead.

Reporting of Incidents:

Drug related incidents may include any of the following:

- Finding drugs, or related items on school premises
- Possession of drugs by an individual
- Use of drugs by an individual on school premises
- Supply of drugs on the school premises
- Individuals disclosing information about their drug use
- Rumours or reports of drug possession supply or use

The reporting of incidents linked to Drugs or Substance Misuse should follow the guidance that is recorded in our Safeguarding Policy. If a pupil voluntarily discloses information about drug misuse, it is important to:

- Not over-react
- Listen to the pupil's point of view
- Not guarantee confidentiality
- Talk to designated members of staff

All information MUST be recorded on CPOMS. Staff should also immediately inform one of the Designated Safeguard Leads.