

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

Green Lane Primary and Nursery School



Drugs Education Policy

Drugs Education

Statement of Purpose

To be read in conjunction with the schools' policies on PSHE & Citizenship, Child Protection, Teaching and Learning, Behaviour, Health and Safety, Equal Opportunities and Inclusion.

Aims

The aims of this policy are to:

- Clarify the school's approach to drugs, for staff, pupils, governors, parents or carers, and to clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities
- Give guidance to staff on the school's drugs education programme
- Safeguard the health and safety of pupils, staff and visitors in our school
- Enable staff to manage drug-related incidents properly

All staff regard the presence of unauthorised drugs as unacceptable.

We want our school to be a safe place for us all to work, and the presence of unauthorised drugs represents a threat to our health and safety.

Drugs education helps children to make decisions about their own lives. This education is an integral part of our PSHE and Citizenship Curriculum and meets the National Healthy School's Status. We define a drug as a substance which when administered to the body brings about change. Drugs include all medicines, whether over-the-counter or on prescription, tobacco, alcohol, solvents, volatile substances and illegal drugs. Even though some drugs may be helpful, all have the potential to be harmful.

Objectives

The objectives of teaching drug education at Green Lane Primary are to develop pupil's knowledge, attitudes and understanding about drugs. It should:

- Provide accurate information and correct misunderstandings.
- Support pupils through their physical, emotional and moral development at an appropriate level from the Early Years Foundation Stage to Key Stage Two.
- Help children develop the skills and understanding they need to live confident, healthy and independent lives.
- Enhance decision making skills.
- Begin to prepare children for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.
- Provide opportunities for pupils to acquire the attitudes, skills and knowledge and understanding to avoid the dangers of drugs misuse.
- Increase knowledge and understanding of social and personal issues relating to drugs in line with the National Curriculum requirements

The Organisation of Drugs Education

We regard drugs education to be a whole school issue.

Pupils learn about being safe with medicines and household substances and basic rules for making healthy choices and following safety rules.

Drugs education will be taught within the broader framework of PSHE & Citizenship and its four themes and in the context of the National Healthy School's Framework and the National Curriculum for Science.

Drugs Education has three main elements:

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Attitudes and Values

- Learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations
- Learning to value one's body and recognising its uniqueness
- Developing attitudes of respect towards medicines, health professionals and hospitals
- Developing critical attitudes towards the use of alcohol and cigarettes
- Developing critical attitudes and responses to media and advertising presentations of medicines, alcohol and smoking
- Exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas and developing critical thinking as part of decision-making

Knowledge and Understanding

To include:

- The school rules relating to medicines
- People who can help children when they have questions or concerns
- Consideration of alcohol, tobacco and solvents: their general effects on the body
- To recognise that all household products, including medicines can be harmful if not used properly

Home/School Partnership

Parents are key people in the teaching of their children about drugs education within the culture and ethos of the family. The school's education programme complements this and supports their role.

There is a need for sensitivity in teaching about drugs education. Pupils may have come from homes where others have made choices to misuse drugs, especially tobacco and alcohol. Teachers should endeavour not to be judgemental.

Our Community

The delivery of drug education is not the sole responsibility of schools.

- People from the wider community bring fresh perspective, specialised knowledge, experience and resources
- Health professionals and others complement the role of the teacher
- They should be aware of the school's policy and PSHE programme
- The lessons are the responsibility of the teacher and co-ordinator
- Working with parents or individual children they follow their own professional codes of conduct

Confidentiality

This must be in line with the school's Child Protection Policy.

All staff will respect the child's confidentiality but this cannot be unconditional.

- If in the child's best interest it has to be broken, then, as far as possible, it must only be with their knowledge.
- If there is any cause for concern the School's Child Protection Policy must be followed.

Equal Opportunities including SEN

The school provides a differentiated curriculum, which is sufficiently broad, balanced and relevant to meet the needs of each child and ensure equality of access for all. This is in line with the school's policies on Equal Opportunities, Inclusion, Racial Equality and Special Needs.

Continuity and Progression

We aim to provide continuity in the teaching of Drugs Education by recognising, valuing and using prior

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learning, including pre-school learning and life experiences.

Responsibility

- Care will be taken with substances within school
- The storage of medicines, chemicals, first aid and emergency procedures are stated in the Health and Safety Policy.
- The school has been designated a no smoking area

Administering Drugs for medical purposes at School

This will be in accordance with the policy for administering of drugs in school.

Dealing with Drug Incidents

The head teacher or deputy head teacher will deal with any drug incident; calling emergency services if appropriate and informing parents.

A full record will be made of any incident.

The head teacher will conduct an investigation into the nature and seriousness of any incident, in order to determine an appropriate response.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The PSHE & Citizenship subject leader and Head teacher will:

- Monitor the application of this policy
- Monitor the teaching of drugs education throughout the school
- Keep all staff informed about developments in drug's education
- Respond to the needs of the community, children, staff and parents