



Copnor Primary School – D4. Drugs Awareness Policy

Introduction

This school is committed to the health and safety of our staff and pupils and will take action to safeguard their well being. Our drugs policy recognises that young people should be given the knowledge, skills and attitudes to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and relate these to their own actions, both now and in their future lives.

Throughout this policy the term drugs means *all* substances capable of misuse – including alcohol, tobacco, medicines and volatile substances, as well as illegal drugs. We actively discourage the misuse of drugs and aim to ensure that pupils develop an awareness of the positive and negative aspects of drugs and about the dangers of their misuse, in order that they can make healthy and informed choices.

Pastoral Care

This school recognises the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of young people, and through the general ethos of the school, will seek to encourage pupils to make informed decisions in order to promote a healthy lifestyle.

The school has a commitment to involve parents and the wider community in the development of its drug education programme.

Any incidents or concerns will be formally logged and parents notified. Provisions will be made for any outside professional help, such as police officers or health professionals.

Drug Education Programme

The programme will be progressive throughout Key Stage 2 and be suited to the age and understanding of the children.

Aims

- To raise basic awareness of reliable, factual information about drugs
- To help pupils extend and practise the skills they need to cope responsibly in a society where drugs are misused
- To have an understanding about the effects of drugs and associated risks
- How to make informed choices regarding personal safety, giving the children the opportunity to communicate their concerns and make responsible decisions.
- To help pupils understand that seeking help appropriately is a strength, not a weakness

Children aged 7 –11 should be introduced to the fact that while all medicines are drugs, not all drugs are medicines.

The children will have the opportunity to:

- Explore attitudes and values around drug misuse
- Practise assertive behaviour and decision making skills
- Become aware of peer pressure
- Consider the consequences of choices
- Learn about sources of help and information
- Emphasise the benefits of a healthy lifestyle

The drugs programme will be taught as an integral part of PSHE with cross-curricular links with science.

The programme will mainly be delivered by classroom teachers who have a clear understanding of the school's policy and an established and continuing relationship with the pupils. Planned and integrated contributions from visitors may, at times, complement the school's approach.

Policy updated: **Sept 2017**
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