



DRUG EDUCATION AND THE MANAGEMENT OF DRUGS POLICY

This Policy was approved by Governors on:	June 2023
This Policy was shared with staff in:	June 2023
Implementation of this Policy will be monitored by:	Head of Pastoral Care, SLT and Head Teacher
Monitoring will take place at regular intervals	
The Policy will be reviewed annually or more regularly if needed.	
Policy Review Date:	June 2023
Date of next Review:	June 2024

Policy Statement

Drug use and misuse are becoming increasingly common in our society. School children are part of society and consequently as a school we recognise the need to deal with drug issues. It is the school's responsibility to ensure the health, care and wellbeing of young children in its charge. Drug Education is more effective when delivered within a broad PSHE Programme that actively promotes healthy lifestyles. This is an essential part in raising standards of attainment for all children. We will ensure that every child has access to a comprehensive and effective Drug Education programme throughout the school.

DRUG EDUCATION

Aims

The aims of our Drug Education Programme are:

- To prepare our children to play an active role as citizens
- To develop the children's confidence, responsibilities and to make the most of their abilities
- To provide our children with the skills to make choices

Definition of Terms

- Drug – any psychotropic substance: all legal drugs (including alcohol and tobacco), all illegal drugs, volatile substances, and over-the-counter and prescription medicines.
- Drug use – is drug taking through which harm may occur, whether through intoxication, breach of school rules or the law, or the possibility of future health problems, although such harm may not be immediately perceptible.
- Drug misuse – drug taking which harms health or functioning. It may take the form of physical or psychological dependence or be part of a wider spectrum of problematic or harmful behaviour.

Provision for Drug Education

Provision is made through the following:

- Through the PSHE and Citizenship
- Through other subject areas such as Science
- Circle Time/ Social Skills
- Visiting Drama Workshops
- Education Business Links/Projects
- Participation in the National Health School Standard Award
- Life Education Bus
- Outside agencies such as the Police and School Nurse.

Teaching and Learning

A range of teaching strategies is used to provide the breadth of effective learning opportunities for all children. These include an emphasis on active learning, enquiry, discussion and participation in activities, eg. Drug Education Workshops.

The National Curriculum science order requires the following elements of drug education to be taught:

- At Key Stage 1: 5 - 7 year olds should be taught about the role of drugs as medicines.
- At Key Stage 2: 7 - 11 year olds should be taught that tobacco, alcohol and other drugs can have harmful effects.

Curriculum Planning

Drug Education is part of the PSHE and Science Schemes of Work. Planning is concentrated into units of work spanning a half term. Schemes of work are developed on a two-year cycle, and are continually reviewed in light of new guidance and resources. The PSHE co-ordinator manages this.

S.E.N. and Differentiation

Drug education is differentiated according to ability.

Staffing and Resources

All teachers are responsible for teaching Drug Education. Central resources are available to all areas of the school.

Equal Opportunities

We recognise the achievement of girls and boys and this is reflected in our Equal Opportunities Policy.

Health and Safety

We adhere to and have due regard for the school's Health and Safety Policy.

Cross Curricular Links

Drug Education is a cross-curricular subject. Cross-curricular links are shown within other subject areas e.g. science, literacy.

Community Links

We recognise the contribution that people from the local community can make in helping to promote the Drug Education of our children and aim to involve professional agencies in our programme.

MANAGEMENT OF DRUG-RELATED INCIDENTS

Definition of Terms

- Drug Incident – evidence or suspicion of a specific event at school involving one or more unauthorised drugs, and requiring immediate action by school staff. (Examples include: a child drinking alcohol or using a vap/e-cigarette at school).
- Drug Situation – an event or series of events involving one or more drugs, including planned events, which require further careful observation, investigation, monitoring, management or referral by school staff. (Examples include: management of insulin, antibiotics, or other medication prescribed for a child; awareness of solvent sniffing or use of vaps/e-cigarettes on a nearby estate; discovery of drugs paraphernalia by school caretaker; child suspected of being physically abused discloses parent/carer's regular drunkenness; child discloses parental drug use).

The Management of Drugs for Medical Requirements

On occasion a child may need to take medication whilst at school. Any individually prescribed medication should be given to the school office with a full completed and signed authorisation by the parent. The school will not administer medication without authorisation. For children who need asthma inhalers, these are easily accessible at all times.

Guidance on Managing Drug-related Incidents

- All staff have a role in responding to drug-related incidents, and relevant training is provided.
- Management of drug-related incidents are co-ordinated by the Headteacher.
- Staff must call for medical help if they are in any doubt about how to proceed. A medical emergency arises when a person is:
 - is unconscious
 - is having trouble breathing
 - is seriously confused or disoriented
 - has taken a harmful, toxic substance
 - is otherwise at immediate risk of harm.

Sanctions

Any sanctions, which might apply in response to a drug-related incident, should be chosen from the range of those available to the school:

- being consistent with existing school rules, codes and expectations with regards to behaviour, discipline, equal opportunities and exclusions.
- being consistent with other disciplinary actions and similar incidents in the past.

Record of Drug-related incidents

The school will record any drug-related incidents on the Safeguard system as a safeguarding concern.

Procedures

The school will follow the guidance for situations involving drugs without medical authority.

Procedures for Referrals

If a member of staff, parent/carer or child has any concerns these should be confidentially discussed with a member of the safeguarding team immediately. This would also include any concerns regarding a current member of staff at Poverest.

USEFUL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The Right Responses – Good Practice in Drug Education
Managing and Making Policy for Drug-related incidents in Schools
Quality Standards in Drug Education
(*Pub. SCODA*)