

*Individual Growth, Individual People'*

Head Teacher: Mrs M A Tyers



# Drug Education Policy

## Reviewed June 2021

## Newark Orchard School – Drug Education Policy

Newark Orchard School is committed to providing an education that nurtures “Individual growth, individual people”.

### Why do we have a drug education policy?

We are committed to investing in our pupil's health and well being, because we believe doing so will assist the process of raising their achievements. Drugs education is an important issue that is both essential and relevant to pupils in the real world. Through our approaches to drugs education we are seeking to develop and enhance life skills that can be built on and which will help them in the future.

In developing our policy and programme of study we have taken full account of the DfES guidance contained in 'Guidance for schools' (2004) and the Quality Standard for Drugs Education. It follows the advice of DfE and ACPO drugs advice for schools (2012).

Therefore this policy promotes practices within the school to reinforce our vision, and to remove or discourage practices that negate them.

This policy is to be upheld by all staff and Governors.

### What is Drug education?

For the purpose of this policy and our drugs education programme, drugs are defined as: *a substance people take to change the way they think, feel or behave.* Where the document refers to drugs, this includes alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, medicines, new psychoactive substances (“legal highs”) and volatile substances, unless otherwise specified.

Drugs Education is part of Personal Social Health and Economic (PSHE) Education and should enable pupils to develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. This is also covered through the delivery of the Newark Orchard School safeguarding curriculum.

### Attitudes and values

- Exploring, considering and understanding attitudes and values towards drugs, drug use and drug users
- Developing critical thinking as part of decision making
- Learning to respect & value difference & diversity
- Having structured opportunities for the exploration of personal attitudes and values towards drugs, drug use & drug users
- Exploring attitudes and values towards drugs, drug use and drug users

### Personal and social skills

- Learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively
- Learning to manage change
- Developing self-respect and empathy for others
- Learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice
- Learning to make informed choices
- Exploring the risks and consequences of their own and others' actions & choices in relation to drugs, drug use & drug users
- Learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse

- Developing inter-personal skills
- Having opportunities to develop a self esteem
- Learning about themselves
- Learning about playing a positive and active role as citizens

### **Knowledge and understanding**

- Learning about a safe & healthy lifestyle based on accurate information.
- Learning accurate information about drugs, drug use & drug users
- Having myths & misunderstandings about drugs, drug use & drug users dispelled
- Learning about seeking appropriate help & advice
- Learning about their community and the society of which they are a part in relation to drugs, drug use & drug users
- Developing pupils' understanding of rules and laws

### **How is Drug education provided?**

1. Within the taught, age appropriate, spiral Drugs Education programme within PSHE, Safeguarding curriculum & Science (specified in the Y6/KS3 programmes of study)
2. Through other curriculum areas delivering aspects (e.g. Drama, English/Literacy etc.)
3. Assemblies
4. Specific intervention support via girls/boys groups/1:1 as appropriate delivered by suitably trained staff member
5. Pastoral support for pupils who experience difficulties (please see Confidentiality Policy)
6. By the provision of appropriate information through leaflets and books
7. Delivery in response to incidents
8. Visits and education from local Police officers

### **Teaching Methods & Resources**

#### **Continuity and Progression**

Continuity and progression will be generated through the adoption of a whole school approach to the planning and delivery of clearly defined and progressive learning objectives covering knowledge, skills and understanding. In EFYS/KS1/KS2, PSHE sessions will be taught discreetly and using cross curricular links where possible to ensure the subject matter of the safeguarding curriculum is covered. In KS3 and KS4 the safeguarding curriculum will be taught via ADSAN units and cross-curricular opportunities will enrich learning. At Post-16, the safe guarding curriculum will be followed.

#### **Safe Learning Environment**

PSHEE is conducted in a safe learning environment through the use of ground rules and distancing techniques so that pupils are not put on the spot or expected to discuss their own personal issues in class. For example:

- Nobody (teacher or pupil) should be expected to answer a personal question
- No one will be forced to take part in a discussion

#### **Active learning**

Active learning methods, which involve pupil's full participation, will be used.

#### **Answering and Asking Questions**

In most cases teachers will attempt to answer pupil's questions and concerns in a sensitive, age and development appropriate manner. Individual teachers will use their skill and discretion in

these situations and if necessary refer to the PSHEE Co-ordinator for advice and support. Teachers will also follow the following guidance:

- Teachers will establish clear parameters about what is appropriate as inappropriate in a whole-class setting
- If a child's question is inappropriate to address with the whole class the teacher should acknowledge the question and attend to it later on an individual basis
- If a question is too personal the teacher should remind the pupils of the ground rules
- Teachers will set the tone by speaking in a matter-of-fact way and ensuring that pupils discuss issues in a way encourages positive participation
- Pupils may have opportunities to write down questions anonymously and post them in a question box. The teacher will have time to prepare answers to questions before the next session, and can choose not to respond to any questions which are inappropriate to address in whole class lessons

### **Groupings**

Drugs Education takes place within mixed sex classes, single gender groups or on 1:1 basis as deemed appropriate and relevant, with the pupils' usual class teacher.

### **External Agencies**

Newark Orchard School will work collaboratively with external agencies to support the students and parents, in addition to developing staff CPD. This may include the school nurse, paediatrician, CAMHs, CASY counselling, Educational Psychologists, etc. Local Police who are used to working in schools and special schools will also be available to support at the appropriate age level and understanding.

### **Resources**

Teaching resources are selected on the basis of their appropriateness to pupils.

### **Assessment**

Pupils existing knowledge needs to be the starting point for all Drugs work. Needs assessments is built into some lesson planning as each group may have different knowledge, experience and understanding.

The elements of Drugs Education that form part of the science curriculum are assessed in accordance with the requirements of the National Curriculum. The learning from the other elements of Drugs is assessed as part of the Safeguarding Curriculum and builds on existing systems. Relevant statements will be assessed on SMSC section of SOLAR/PSED section of EYFS and monitored accordingly.

See Curriculum and Planning, Assessment, Recording & Reporting Policy.

### **Equal Opportunities**

The school's drugs education programme of study is designed to promote the achievement of our aims and to ensure that all pupils have equality of access to them.

Pupils may have varying needs regarding Drugs Education depending on their circumstances and background. The school strongly believes that all pupils should have access to Drugs Education that is relevant to their particular needs.

To achieve this, the school's approach to Drugs Education will take account of:

- Ethnic and cultural diversity
- Varying home backgrounds
- Special educational needs

Pupils who are assessed to be vulnerable will receive additional drug education support e.g. one to one support, additional sessions.

### **Drug related incidents**

Details of the school's policy on responding to drugs related incidents are referred to in our Behaviour Policy (powers to search pupils and confiscate items - *taken from Screening, Searching and Confiscation (DfE-00034- 2014)*). We believe that drugs education is a key element in the prevention of, and part of our response to such incidents in school. Our drugs education programme is designed to support and complement the way in which we manage drugs related incidents. See Appendix B for generic guidance.

### **Administration of medicines**

Details of the school's policy on the storage and administration of medicines is contained in our 'Policy for Special School Staff on the Administration of Medicines' and 'Managing Complex Health Care Needs Policy'. Our management of medicines is designed to visibly and consistently reinforce our teaching and learning objectives on the safe use of medicines.

### **Personnel**

The SMSC co-ordinators is Marie Fryer.

The governors responsible for drugs education are Laura Redfern and John Lee.

### **Consultation & Training**

The school is committed to ensuring that everyone involved with teaching, or supporting the teaching of drugs education receives appropriate and ongoing professional development in order to maintain whole school consistency and high standards for the pupils in our care.

In order for everyone to be consulted effectively it maybe necessary to ensure that governors & parents receive awareness training &/or information about drugs. The school ensures parents/ carers are:

- Made aware of the schools approach and rationale for drug education through the policy.
- Involved in the planning and review of the drug education programme and policy.
- Encourage to support their pupil's learning at home through shared learning activities.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The programme is regularly evaluated by the Drugs Education co-ordinator. The views of pupils and teachers who deliver the programme are used to make changes and improvements to the programme on an ongoing basis.

### **Policy Development & Review**

This policy document was produced in consultation with the entire school community, including pupils, parents, school staff including the catering staff, Governors, LA representatives, community dietitian and school community nurse.

This document is freely available to the entire school community. It has also been made available in the school web-site.

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Review date.....

Signed.....Chair of Governors

Date.....

### **Policy Links**

Child protection

Behaviour

Curriculum

Good health (personal, social and relationships education)

Guidance on Visitors, including VIPs, to schools

Managing Complex Health Care Needs Policy

Nottinghamshire School Employee Code of Conduct

Policy for Special School Staff on the Administration of Medicines

Planning, Assessment, Recording & Reporting Policy

Nottinghamshire School Smoke Free Policy

### **References:**

- **DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools Advice for local authorities, head teachers, school staff and governing bodies (September 2012)**
- **Derbyshire Pupils and Young People's Health Promotion Programme Model Policy from [www.cyphderbyshire.co.uk](http://www.cyphderbyshire.co.uk) (2018)**

## Appendix A - Useful Organisations

Taken from:

DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools Advice for local authorities, head teachers, school staff and governing bodies (September 2012)

**Addaction** is one of the UK's largest specialist drug and alcohol treatment charities. As well as adult services, they provide services specifically tailored to the needs of young people and their parents. The Skills for Life project supports young people with drug misusing parents. Website: [www.addaction.org.uk](http://www.addaction.org.uk)

**ADFAM** offers information to families of drug and alcohol users, and the website has a database of local family support services. Tel: 020 7553 7640 Email: [admin@adfam.org.uk](mailto:admin@adfam.org.uk) Website: [www.adfam.org.uk](http://www.adfam.org.uk)

**Alcohol Concern** works to reduce the incidence and costs of alcohol-related harm and to increase the range and quality of services available to people with alcohol-related problems Tel: 020 7264 0510. Email: [contact@alcoholconcern.org.uk](mailto:contact@alcoholconcern.org.uk) Website: [www.alcoholconcern.org.uk](http://www.alcoholconcern.org.uk)

**ASH (Action on Smoking and Health)** A campaigning public health charity aiming to reduce the health problems caused by tobacco. Tel: 020 7739 5902 Email: [enquiries@ash.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ash.org.uk) Website: [www.ash.org.uk](http://www.ash.org.uk)

**Children's Legal Centre** operates a free and confidential legal advice and information service covering all aspects of law and policy affecting children and young people. Tel: 01206 877910 Email: [clc@essex.ac.uk](mailto:clc@essex.ac.uk) Website: [www.pupilsslegalcentre.com](http://www.pupilsslegalcentre.com)

**Children's Rights Alliance for England** - A charity working to improve the lives and status of all pupils in England through the fullest implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Email: [info@crae.org.uk](mailto:info@crae.org.uk) Website: [www.crae.org.uk](http://www.crae.org.uk)

**Drinkaware** - An independent charity that promotes responsible drinking through innovative ways to challenge the national drinking culture, helping reduce alcohol misuse and minimise alcohol related harm. Tel: 020 7307 7450 Website: [www.drinkaware.co.uk/](http://www.drinkaware.co.uk/)

**Drinkline** - A free and confidential helpline for anyone who is concerned about their own or someone else's drinking. Tel: 0800 917 8282 (lines are open 24 hours a day)

**Drug Education Forum** - this website contains a number of useful papers and briefing sheets for use by practitioners: Website: [www.drugeducationforum.com/](http://www.drugeducationforum.com/) 14



**DrugScope** is a centre of expertise on illegal drugs, aiming to inform policy development and reduce drug-related risk. The website includes detailed drug information and access to the Information and Library Service. DrugScope also hosts the Drug Education Practitioners Forum. Tel: 020 7520 7550 Email: [info@drugscope.org.uk](mailto:info@drugscope.org.uk) Website: [www.drugscope.org.uk](http://www.drugscope.org.uk)

**FRANK** is the national drugs awareness campaign aiming to raise awareness amongst young people of the risks of illegal drugs, and to provide information and advice. It also provides support to parents/carers, helping to give them the skills and confidence to communicate with their pupils about drugs. 24 Hour Helpline: 0800 776600 Email: [frank@talktofrank.com](mailto:frank@talktofrank.com) Website: [www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com)

**Mentor UK** is a non-government organisation with a focus on protecting the health and wellbeing of pupils and young people to reduce the damage that drugs can do to their lives. Tel: 020 7739 8494. Email [admin@mentoruk.org](mailto:admin@mentoruk.org) Website: [www.mentoruk.org.uk](http://www.mentoruk.org.uk)

**National Pupils' Bureau** promotes the interests and well-being of all pupils and young people across every aspect of their lives. Tel: 020 7843 6000 Website: [www.ncb.org.uk](http://www.ncb.org.uk)

**Family Lives** - A charity offering support and information to anyone parenting a child or teenager. It runs a free-phone helpline and courses for parents, and develops innovative projects. Tel: 0800 800 2222 Website: <http://familylives.org.uk/>

**Re-Solv (Society for the Prevention of Solvent and Volatile Substance Abuse)** A national charity providing information for teachers, other professionals, parents and young people. Tel: 01785 817885 Information line: 01785 810762 Email: [information@re-solv.org](mailto:information@re-solv.org) Website: [www.re-solv.org](http://www.re-solv.org)

**Smokefree** - NHS Smoking Helpline: 0800 169 0 169 Website: <http://smokefree.nhs.uk>

**Stars National Initiative** offers support for anyone working with pupils, young people and families affected by parental drug and alcohol misuse. Website: [www.starsnationalinitiative.org.uk](http://www.starsnationalinitiative.org.uk)

**Youth Offending Teams** - Local Youth Offending Teams are multi-agency teams and are the responsibility of the local authority, who have a statutory duty to [prevent offending by young people under the age of 18. Website: <https://www.gov.uk/youth-offending-team>

## Appendix B - Generic Guidance for dealing with drugs related incidents

Please note this is a 'generic' response and individual cases may follow alternative pathways determined by the content of the situation.

