

P

pupil voice

R

respect

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independence

D

dignity

E

entitlement



## DRUG EDUCATION

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An academy within:



“Learning together; to be the best we can be”



Kelford School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

## **Rationale**

The school plays a crucial role in educating pupils about drugs, to help reduce harm from drugs and help pupils make informed and healthy decisions about drugs. This policy aims to bring about a whole school approach to drug issues. All new staff will be made aware of the Drug policy and its contents by their line manager.

The aim of this policy is to acknowledge and clarify the school's role in drug prevention and education and ensure it is appropriate to pupils' needs. The policy provides information and guidance about drug education, as well as procedures to respond to any drug-related incident, for pupils, teachers, support-staff and outside agencies or individuals. The policy aims to ensure that the approach taken on the issue of drugs is a whole-school one and is part of our commitment to and concern for the health and well-being of the whole school community. Teachers will need to be confident and skilled to teach drug education and pupils need to receive up to date, relevant and accurate information as well as support. This policy aims to make clear procedures for responding to and managing drug-related incidents. Sanctions for incidents will be consistent with the school's behaviour policy. This policy should also be read in conjunction with the medicines, health and safety, smoking and staff code of conduct policies. As a matter of course, all staff, parents/carers and pupils are reminded of this policy on an annual basis.

This policy applies at all times to the school premises, school transport as well as school visits/trips/fieldwork/residentials etc.

## **Who does this policy apply to?**

This policy applies to the whole school community – all staff, pupils, parents and external agencies working with the school. (Agreement may be made with some external agencies to allow them to work under their own confidentiality policy if deemed appropriate e.g. confidential drop-ins) The school boundaries include the actual school site, pupil's journeys to and from school sessions, and activities which take place organised via the school such as school visits/trips/residentials, (including trips abroad); work experience.

The definition of a drug given by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is:

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

The terms 'drugs' and 'drug education' within this document refer to all drugs including medicines (over the counter and prescription), volatile substances, ketamine, khat, alkyl nitrites, alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs.

## **Objectives**

- To develop children's personal and social skills including refusal and decision making skills
- To help children take increased responsibility for themselves and their actions



- To encourage children to value themselves and others
- To encourage children to help and support others
- To encourage children to work cooperatively in active learning and group work
- To clarify what children already know, give information to clarify facts and correct false knowledge and beliefs
- To help children deal with the effect of media coverage of issues relating to drugs
- To support staff in dealing with issues and incidents relating to drugs and drugs use
- To ensure all staff are aware of procedures relating to drugs and drug use at Kelford School
- To develop and equip pupils with the knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to build their resilience and avoid peer group pressure or unwanted drug offers from others
- To build pupils' decision-making skills and increased self esteem

The possession, misuse or supply of these drugs within the school boundaries (other than those prescribed for their medical condition) is unacceptable. However, in any incident involving drugs priority will be placed on safety, meeting any medical emergencies with first aid and summoning appropriate help before addressing further issues. The major concern for the school in managing drugs is the health and safety of the school community and meeting the pastoral needs of pupils.

Some pupils may require medicines that have been prescribed for their medical condition during the day; refer to the Medicines in Schools Policy for further guidance.

If alcohol is authorised at school (e.g. parent/carer/community events) the arrangement for storage or use will be discussed with the Headteacher, and a licence obtained.

Any solvents or hazardous chemicals legitimately used by school staff or pupils will be stored securely by appropriate staff responsible for their use and managed to prevent inappropriate access or use. Further detail is available in the Health and Safety Policy.

The Headteacher will have responsibility for drug related incidents and all members of staff will refer incidents to the Headteacher. In the Headteacher's absence, the Deputy Head should be informed. The PSHE Coordinator/s is line managed by the Headteacher who therefore oversees the planning and coordination of drug education.

The PSHE Coordinator will have overall responsibility for the coordination of the drug education programme in school but individual class teachers will liaise closely with the Headteacher to ensure that the programme is up to date and meets the needs of the pupils and that careful monitoring and evaluation of the quality of teaching takes place.

### **Drug education**

Drug 'education' is a main component of drug prevention. Drug prevention aims to minimise the number of young people engaging in drug use; delay the onset of first use; reduce the harm caused by drugs; and enable those who have concerns about drugs to seek help.



The aim of drug education is to provide opportunities for pupils to develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, relating this to their own and others' actions.

Drug education is taught through themes, PSHE lessons, assemblies and when the need arises.

This is the basis of what will be covered in each key stage:

In KS1 – 3 PSHE is delivered at appropriate times through all subjects. In KS4 and KS5 it is taught as a discrete subject for one hour a week. Every child and young person has a developmental curriculum booklet to record their progress in the different topics.

Over their school life pupils will learn about the following Drug Awareness:

- What is safe and unsafe
- Food safety
- Where to go for help and who can help me.
- How I can stay healthy and safe
- Healthy and safe choices
- Medicine: safety; positive effects
- Cigarettes and alcohol and the alternatives
- Legal and illegal substances

Links are also made within PSHE lessons to other common aspects of PSHE for example resisting pressure in relationships education; personal safety; emotional health.

Appropriate external agencies will be used who can add value (expertise we cannot ourselves offer) but these visitors will be carefully planned and integrated into the drug education programme; the teaching of drug education will be the responsibility of the teacher.

### **Methodology and resources:**

Teachers will build on what the pupils already know; teaching will be structured so pupils know what is to be learnt and how. Due to the sensitive nature of the subject of drugs, ground rules will be developed with each class to foster mutual respect and a safe environment where pupils feel safe to discuss their views; pupils will be reminded of the school's confidentiality policy if personal disclosure should take place and where they can access help and advice confidentially. The teaching and assessment of drug education will be monitored by class teachers and the PSHE coordinator.

### **Management of drugs at school:**

- Prescribed medicines /Non-prescribed medicines  
Out of date/unused medicines should be disposed of by school
- Alcohol  
Parents/carers can be informed and given the opportunity to come and collect the alcohol, unless this would jeopardise the safety of the pupil
- Tobacco  
Parents/carers can be informed and given the opportunity to come and collect the tobacco, unless this would jeopardise the safety of the pupils



- **Illegal drugs**

The law permits staff to take temporary possession of a substance suspected of being an illegal drug for the purpose of preventing an offence from being committed or continued in relation to that drug. **As soon as possible the member of staff with responsibility for drugs in school will be notified of any drug related incident so that they can lead the decision making process.**

**Parents/carers under the influence of drugs on school premises:**

Staff will try to maintain a calm atmosphere. The focus will be on the welfare of the pupil not the moderation of the parent/carers behaviour. If staff are concerned about releasing the child into the care of a parent/carer under the influence school might choose to discuss with parent/carer if alternative arrangements can be made (e.g. another parent/carer to accompany the child home). If this happens repeatedly the school may look at invoking child protection procedures; if the parent/carer becomes abusive/violent the school may wish to involve the police.

**The needs of pupils including referral and external support:**

When teaching drug education, the school will be sensitive towards:

Those members of the school community, who need regular medication in order to remain healthy; Pupils who may have siblings, parents/carers or family members who use drugs e.g. cigarettes and we will endeavour to enable pupils to access support ensuring vulnerable pupils are identified and receive appropriate support through the curriculum, the pastoral system, or referral to other services.

Notice boards in school and on the school website will be available for pupils, staff (teaching and non-teaching) and parents identifying where support and advice on drug issues can be found locally and nationally. Also we will put some appropriate information in newsletters and pupil materials (e.g. student planners).

**Confidentiality:**

Teachers cannot and should not promise total confidentiality. Boundaries of the school's confidentiality policy will be made clear to pupils before the pupil has the chance to perhaps disclose information that they would rather not be passed on. If a pupil requests that a member of staff does not disclose some sensitive information the request should be honoured unless it is unavoidable in relation to:

- Child protection (pupils' safety is under threat or a life is in danger)
- Co-operating with a police investigation
- Referral to external services

If sensitive information needs to be passed on we will try to secure the pupils' permission or at least inform the pupil, if at all possible, before the information has to be shared with others and try to explain why it has to be shared.



### **Involvement of parents/carers:**

As research has shown that parents/carers have a crucial role in preventing problem drug use, we will involve parents in drug education by providing homework for pupils; this will give opportunity for an opening for the discussion of drugs to take place in the home; drugs will not then be a 'taboo' subject. We will offer parents the opportunity to attending an event where consultation can take place regarding the content of the drug policy and awareness of the content of drug education throughout the school. Drug education resources will be available for parents to look at and we will plan to raise their drug awareness in order to increase parents' knowledge about drugs. We will also provide information in newsletters and parents information board about access to information about drugs and local and national sources of help

### **Staff conduct and drugs:**

The school will follow statutory guidance on substance misuse. All Nexus employees are expected to behave responsibly at all times and to safeguard their own health and safety and that of those around them. It is the responsibility of employees to ensure that their performance at work is not affected by alcohol consumption or substance misuse. Should substance abuse problems arise the council will provide help, assistance and support by giving employees information on where to seek advice. An employee's refusal of diagnosis or help or continuance in a recovery programme will not in itself be grounds for disciplinary action. Clearly however a failure to take advantage of support programmes being offered would likely result in the continuation of unacceptable behaviour and therefore lead to the resumption of disciplinary procedures.

Employees are prohibited from the use of drugs defined by the Misuse of Drugs Act (except where prescribed, or over the counter medicine) during the working day.

### **Further Advice & Guidance**

**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 Website: [www.adfam.org.uk](http://www.adfam.org.uk)

### **DfE and ACPO Drug Advice for Schools 2012**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/270169/drug\\_advice\\_for\\_schools.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/270169/drug_advice_for_schools.pdf)

**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 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 children about drugs. 24 Hour Helpline: 0800 776600 Email: frank@talktofrank.com Website: [www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com)



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

### **Rotherham Drug and Alcohol Services**

<https://www.nhs.uk/livewell/drugs/pages/drugtreatment.aspx>

<https://www.nhs.uk/Services/clinics/Overview/DefaultView.aspx?id=107491>

<https://www.rdash.nhs.uk/services/our-services/drug-and-alcohol-services-for-adults/rethink-your-drink-rotherham-alcohol-service/>

<http://www.aspire.community/>

[http://www.tht.org.uk/sexual-health/Clinics-and-Services/Other-services/R/Rotherham-Drug-and-Alcohol-Services-\(Community-Drug-and-Alcohol-Treatment-Services-S65-1BL\)](http://www.tht.org.uk/sexual-health/Clinics-and-Services/Other-services/R/Rotherham-Drug-and-Alcohol-Services-(Community-Drug-and-Alcohol-Treatment-Services-S65-1BL))

[http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/directory\\_record/115665/rdash\\_nhs\\_trust\\_drug\\_and\\_alcohol\\_services](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/directory_record/115665/rdash_nhs_trust_drug_and_alcohol_services)