

CASLON PRIMARY COMMUNITY SCHOOL, BEECH TREE SEMH BASE, TREE ACRE EARLY YEARS INCLUSION HUB And BEECHER BEAR DAYCARE AND NURSERY

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL POLICY 2025

This policy is developed as part of a whole school ethos to develop healthy children with high self esteem who are able to take responsibility for their own learning and actions. It links with other policies;

- Health & Safety Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Medicines Policy
- PSHE and RSE curriculum
- Curriculum Science Curriculum

Purpose

The purpose of the school drug policy is to:

- Clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities of the school
- Reinforce and safeguard the health & safety of pupils and others who use the school
- Clarify the school's approach to drugs for staff, pupils, governors, parents/carers and the wider community
- Give guidance on developing, implementing and monitoring the drug programme
- Enable staff to manage any drug related incidents on the premises
- Ensure that the response to drug-related incidents complements the approach to drug education and values and ethos of the school
- Provide a basis for evaluating the school drug education programme and management of drug-related incidents
- Reflect the schools approach to health as part of the NHS
- The drug policy applies to the school and playing fields including pupils, staff, governors, parents/carers, and anyone else visiting the school. It also includes all pupils and staff/helpers on school trips.

Definition of 'drugs'

This policy uses the definition that a drug is:

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

The term 'drugs' includes:

- All illegal drugs
- All legal drugs including alcohol, tobacco and volatile substances which can be inhaled
- All over-the-counter and prescription medicines.

Statement on drugs

Caslon Primary Community School finds it wholly unacceptable within the school premises or grounds to introduce, sell or use illegal drugs or to misuse legal drugs or substances. Appropriate steps will be taken to deal with any drug-related incidents which occur.

The school has a policy on the administration of prescription medicines when necessary, which conforms to LA guidelines (See Medicine Policy).

The first concern in managing drugs is the health & safety of the school community and meeting the pastoral needs of pupils.

Responsible staff member

The senior member of staff responsible for drug related issues is the Headteacher.

Educational Aims and Objectives

The school's drug education programme is part of a whole school approach to the health education of pupils. The overall aim is to give pupils the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes to take responsibility for making informed choices about their health and the use and misuse of drugs, both now and later in life, and to emphasise the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

Drug education will be delivered as part of the school's PHSE and RSE curriculum and the whole school ethos of promoting high self-esteem and Emotional Literacy within pupils.

Specific aims of the Drug Education Policy are:

- To promote and develop positive attitudes and behaviour towards good health.
- To enable pupils to make healthy informed choices.
- To foster and develop self-esteem.
- To provide accurate information.
- To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse.
- To practise the skills necessary to deal with a drug offer situation.
- To widen understanding about health and social issues.
- To enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal and professional support.

Caslon's Drugs Education Programme

The aims of imparting knowledge/understanding, skills and attitudes will be fulfilled through the teaching of the Science, PSHE, RSE and PE curricula and through developing the whole school ethos.

The Drugs and Alcohol Education elements that will be taught for Foundation & Key Stage One includes the following:

Foundation Stage:

1. Identifying products in the home which are safe/unsafe for consumption.
2. Understand that putting the wrong things into our bodies can make us sick.

Years 1 and 2:

1. To learn what constitutes, and how to maintain, a healthy lifestyle.
2. To learn that household products, including medicines, can be harmful if not used properly.
3. Identify products within their homes that are not suitable for consumption, in addition to medicines.
4. Understand how medicines should be used safely and with adult supervision.

The Drugs and Alcohol Education elements that will be taught for Lower Key Stage Two includes the following:

Year 3:

1. What is meant by a habit? How we form habits.
2. Healthy habits vs unhealthy habits.
3. How we can change/stop bad habits.
4. About drugs that are common in everyday life (medicines, caffeine, alcohol and tobacco, energy drinks, e-cigarettes, shisha/e-shisha).
5. How drugs can be harmful.

Year 4:

1. What does the body need regularly to maintain good health?
2. Identify bad habits which are more serious and have bigger consequences?
3. What makes drugs legal or illegal?
4. To identify legal and illegal drugs.
5. Difficulty in telling legal and illegal drugs apart.
6. Introduction to crime, risk and safety advice.

The Drugs and Alcohol Education elements that will be taught for Upper Key Stage Two includes the following:

Year 5

1. Consequences and risks of illegal drugs can have on health.
2. Laws around illegal drugs.
3. Classification of illegal drugs; Cannabis, Ecstasy, Heroin, Mephedrone.
4. 'Legal highs' and the risks.
5. Criminal sentences connected to drugs.

6. Why might people choose to take illegal drugs?
7. Develop skills and ability to make wise choices.
8. Knowledge of how and where to get support.

Year 6

1. Provides common scenarios with a choice of outcomes.
2. Encourages safe choices to avoid risk and crime.
3. Strategies for responding to peer pressure.
4. Introduces option of reporting concerns to an adult or police.
5. Signposting to support and advice.

Organisation of the Drugs Education Programme

The Deputy Head Teacher is responsible for Health Education within the school.

All class teachers are responsible for teaching the relevant sections of the Science, PHSE, RSE and PE curricula and for developing the school ethos within their class.

All staff working with children should be aware of any worries and concerns that individuals may have, and ensure that children get appropriate support (see section on confidentiality).

Class teachers and school leaders are responsible for assessing pupil needs within their class/Key Stage in relation to drug education.

Methodology and Resources

Drug education should help pupils make informed choices and establish a healthy lifestyle, and they should be involved in active learning experiences.

A wide range of teaching methods will be used including discussions, role-play and other active, creative ways of involving pupils in understanding the issues.

The use of Circle time involves the laying down of ground rules in dealing with sensitive issues.

Resources will be kept in the PHSE and RSE Folder on Sharepoint for all staff to access.

Staff Support and Training

The member of staff responsible for drug related issues will be sent on appropriate training courses and will cascade information to staff.

General staff training will be built into the school development plan as needed.

Assessment and monitoring

- Assessment of the Science and PE elements of the drugs Education Programme will be assessed according to the National Curriculum.
- Assessment of PHSE elements will be by teacher assessment, following observation of pupils' contributions in discussion, role-play etc.
- Pupils will be encouraged to undertake self-assessment and peer-group assessment, reflecting on what they have learnt.
- Achievement in the Drug Education can form part of the PHSE and RSE section of the school report.
- The responsible member of staff for drug issues is responsible for overall monitoring of drug education, with feedback from curriculum co-ordinators.
- Feedback from pupils, class teachers and parent/carers will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the Life Education Programme.
- The Drug Education programme should be reviewed annually.

Management of drugs at school

If a drug-related incident occurs staff should:

- Inform Designated Safeguarding Lead, Head Teacher immediately.
- Inform parent/carers providing this does not place child at risk. (On advice from DSL/Head Teacher.)
- Legal substances can be returned to parent/carers or disposed of safely.
- If disclosure is made by/about a child or carer, the school Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will be informed immediately and take appropriate action while considering issues of confidentiality.
- Provide pupil and carer with access to further forms of support.
- Provide information in school, for example if a discarded syringe were to be found children should be warned of the dangers as a matter of priority

- Seek outside support if necessary e.g.LA, school health team, police etc.
- In the case of illegitimate sale of legal or illegal drugs, the Head Teacher will inform the police.
- All decisions and actions should be recorded.
- The outcome for pupil and school community should be monitored and the effectiveness of policy and practice assessed.
- Permanent exclusion of a pupil is seen as a last resort.
- In the extremely unlikely event of a drug related incident the following procedures should be followed :
 - Ascertain if there is any medical emergency, and call ambulance and follow First Aid procedures if necessary.
 - Remove drug/paraphernalia using gloves and place in a secure container.
 - Liaise with LA on safe disposal of matter such as needles.
 - Temporarily store drug/paraphernalia in a secure place

Police involvement

Police should be involved in any incident involving the sale or use of illegal drugs, although there is no legal obligation to give a pupil's name. The Head Teacher will make the decision on the need to involve the police.

Incidents where a parent/carer is behaving under the influence of drugs or alcohol on school premises will be judged on the circumstances and the Head Teacher will make a decision as to whether the police should be called.

Confidentiality

Teachers and staff cannot and should not promise total confidentiality in drug related issues. This should be made clear to pupils. However requests for confidentiality should be honoured unless this is not possible in relation to:

- Child protection
- Co-operating with a police investigation
- Referring to an external agency.

Every effort should be made to secure a pupil's agreement to the way in which the school intends to use any sensitive information: it should only be in exceptional circumstances that sensitive information is passed on against a pupil's wishes, where possible the school should inform the pupil first and explain why this needs to happen e.g. where there is a child protection issue or a life is in danger.

Involvement of parents/carers

In the event of any incident involving the misuse of any legal or illegal drug on school premises, the Head Teacher will take the decision as to whether parents/carers should be informed, and how they will be involved in dealing with the incident.

"This policy adheres to the principles under data protection law. For further information please review the school's data protection policy published on the school's website"

Policy Written: Sept 2025

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