

FLEET INFANT SCHOOL

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Policy: Drugs Education Policy**Written: Summer 2013 Revised: July 2017/May 2020/March 2023/ June 2025****Reviewed by Governing Body: June 2025**Rationale

The statutory DfE guidance Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education document (September 2020) gives a clear framework for teaching children about physical health and mental wellbeing. This document states that by the end of primary school children should know the facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including; smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking. The PDL curriculum we offer at Fleet Infant School provides the foundations for teaching about substance use and misuse. Children are introduced to how to keep healthy and the role of drugs as medicines. This will be continued through Key Stage 2 at junior school and beyond at secondary schools.

The Drugs Education Policy has clear links with other school policies aimed at promoting children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC) including; Positive Mental Health and Well-being Policy, Single Equality Statement, Health and Safety Policy, Child Protection Policy, Safeguarding Procedure and Guidance, On-line Safety Policy, Special Educational Needs Policy, Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions, Relationships Education Policy and Behaviour Policy.

This policy covers:

- Drugs Education taught through the planned Personal Development Learning curriculum
- The management of drug-related incidents

Aims

Physical health and mental wellbeing are interlinked, and it is important that pupils understand that good physical health contributes to good mental wellbeing, and vice versa. At Fleet Infant School high priority is given to promoting children's mental health and wellbeing as well as promoting the benefits of regular physical activity and other aspects of keeping physically healthy.

We aim to provide opportunities for children to develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding that enable them to make age-appropriate choices about why good physical health and mental well being is an important aspect of their development and has benefits for their lives now and in the future.

We work to ensure that our children:

- know that all substances can be harmful if not used properly
- know about different types of medicines and that some people need them to lead a normal life
- know and understand simple safety rules about medicines, tablets, solvents and household substances.

How we teach Drugs Education at Fleet Infant School

Drugs Education is integrated into our Personal Development Learning (PDL) curriculum. It is taught within the context of a broad and balanced curriculum and is not isolated, taken out of context or over-emphasised in any way. Teaching relates to the children's level of maturity and cognitive development.

Drugs Education Provision

Our whole school PDL curriculum is delivered through the SCARF PSHE resources. SCARF is a whole-school approach to promoting behaviour, safety, achievement and well-being. It provides a comprehensive spiral curriculum for PSHE education including mental health and well-being. It centres on a value based and growth mind-set approach. The SCARF values are Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience and Friendship. It also includes teaching about SMSC development, British Values and Personal Development.

The PDL curriculum enables children to learn about themselves as developing individuals and as members of the school and wider community. As members of a class and school community they learn social skills and begin to take an active part in the life of the school and its neighbourhood.

Our provision meets the requirements of the statutory Health Education aspect of the DfE statutory guidance Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education (September 2020).

The lessons that teach the foundations of Drugs Education are taught within the half termly unit titled 'Keeping Safe'. Lessons are taught in all year groups.

Year R

In the lesson 'What's safe to go onto my body' children are taught to

- name things that keep their bodies safe
- name things that keep their bodies clean and protected
- think about things that might not be safe

In the lesson 'What's safe to go into my body (including medicines) children are taught to

- make safe decisions about items they don't recognise
- talk about what their bodies need to stay well
- name the safe ways to store medicines and who can give them to children (adults)

Year 1

In the lesson 'What could Harold do?' children are taught to

- understand that medicines can sometimes make people feel better when they are ill
- explain simple issues of safety and responsibility about medicines and their use

Year 2

In the lesson 'Harold's Picnic' children are taught to

- understand that medicines can sometimes make people feel better when they are ill
- give examples of some of the things that a person can do, without the use of medicines, if they are unwell
- explain simple issues of safety and responsibility about medicines and their use

Evaluation and Monitoring

Drugs Education in the PDL curriculum will be assessed, evaluated and monitored as part of the end of topic evaluation by the teacher. The PDL manager will monitor the delivery of Drugs Education through planning scrutiny and other monitoring.

The Headteacher monitors this policy on a regular basis and reports to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

Pupils whose Parents/Carers or Relatives Use or Misuse Drugs

Many pupils will have parents/carers or relatives who take medicines, smoke/vape or drink alcohol. Some may have parents/carers or family members who use illegal drugs. At Fleet Infant School we are sensitive to individual family situations and care will be taken so that Drugs Education does not stigmatise or

heighten pupils' anxieties about any family member's welfare. Any concerns about individual children's welfare will be discussed with the headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

Management of Drug Related Incidents at Fleet Infant School

The health and safety of the whole school community is paramount at all times. Any drug related incidents that take place on the school premises will be dealt with in the following ways;

1) **Drugs or paraphernalia found on the school premises**

The school caretaker carries out a daily sweep of the school grounds. If drugs/paraphernalia are found they would be removed and temporarily stored securely in a designated place. The details of any such discovery would be recorded with a witness present. The headteacher would be informed and begin further investigations as appropriate. If illegal substances are found the police would be notified without delay and they would arrange for collection or disposal according to locally agreed protocols. If legal substances such as, tobacco, alcohol or medicines were found, they would be disposed of safely.

2) **A pupil was found to be in possession of unauthorised drugs on the school premises**

If a pupil was found to be in possession of unauthorised drugs on the school premises the substances would be removed from the child and the substances dealt with in the same way as in 1.

The parents/carer of the child would be notified if it does not put the child at risk. The DSL would be informed to seek advice whether there are child protection issues.

3) **A parent/carer under the influence of a drug including misuse of a medicine or under the influence of alcohol**

If staff are concerned about a parent/carer and the welfare of a child/children the DSL would be informed to seek advice about whether there are child protection issues. The safety of all children at Fleet Infant School is paramount at all times and if staff are concerned whether a parent/carer is under the influence of a drug including misuse of a medicine or under the influence of alcohol the headteacher will be consulted for advice to decide whether it is safe to release a child into the care of the parent/carer.

4) **A child makes a disclosure of parents/carers drug use**

For some disclosures e.g. smoking, no further action may be required. However, if there are any concerns about the child's safety/welfare the headteacher and DSL will be consulted for advice and any necessary action taken in line with the school safeguarding procedures.

5) **Illegitimate sale/supply of drugs (legal or illegal) in the school vicinity**

If there any concerns about such activity in the school vicinity the local police will be consulted. If appropriate, other schools in the vicinity, the Local Authority and parents/carers will be informed to raise awareness.

All decisions regarding Drug Related Incidences will be recorded and the outcomes for any pupil concerned and the school community will be monitored by the headteacher.

Staff Development

All staff will be informed of this policy and their own responsibilities at the start of each academic year as part of safeguarding updates.

Tobacco and Alcohol

Fleet Infant School is a no smoking environment where smoking, and vaping, on the premises is prohibited. The no smoking policy extends to anyone accompanying children on extra-curricular activities.

The bringing of alcohol to the school premises and its consumption are prohibited. However, the school recognises that there are occasions when the school premises are used outside school hours for social occasions when it will be acceptable for alcoholic drinks to be consumed, subject to local bylaws.

Donations of alcohol for raffle and tombola prizes at School Association events will be stored safely prior to the events.