



## Drugs Policy

The aim of this policy is to acknowledge and clarify the academy'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 academy's 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 academy's behaviour policy. This policy should also be read in conjunction with the PSHCE policy, Administering Medicines policy, Health and safety policy, SEN and Behaviour policy. Access to this policy for all staff, parents and pupils will be available on the academy's website, and this policy applies at all times to the academy premises, as well as school visits/trips / residential etc.

**Definition:** "Drugs" are taken here to mean those that are legal, such as alcohol, tobacco and solvents, over the counter and prescribed drugs, and illegal drugs such as cannabis, ecstasy, amphetamines, heroin, crack/cocaine, LSD etc

The academy believes that the possession and or use of such drugs in school, during the school day or while travelling to/from the academy is inappropriate. The drugs/substances covered by this policy are not to be bought, sold or otherwise exchanged or brought onto academy premises during the school day, *or* while pupils are on academy visits. Individual exceptions may be made for pupils who require prescription medicines where appropriate.

**Drug Education:** The academy provides a planned drug education curriculum through the following:

(i) The National Curriculum science order outlines the content of the *statutory* drugs education-

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

(ii) Other discretionary topics (delivered through Circle Time, Personal, Social and Health Citizenship and Education) reflect knowledge, understanding, attitudes and social skills: this will:

- Enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices
- Promote positive attitudes to healthy lifestyles
- Provide accurate information about substances

- Increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse
- Widen understanding about related health and social issues
- Enable young people to identify sources of appropriate advice and personal support

The *content* of the academy's Drug Education Programme (which is based on Appendix 2 of *Drugs: guidance for schools*) is set out in the school PSHCE Policy and Scheme of Work)

On the whole, it will be teachers who will teach drug education but, where appropriate, outside visitors may make a contribution. Such visitors should be used in a planned way and be their contributions evaluated. The school actively cooperates with agencies such as the police, health and drug agencies.

**Statutory duty of the academy:** The headteacher takes overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation, for liaison with the governing body, parents and appropriate outside agencies. The headteacher will ensure that all staff dealing with substance issues are adequately supported and trained.

**Implementation of the policy:** In incidents involving substance misuse or supply on the premises/during the school day, and following discussion with the pupil and staff, action will proceed as follows. It should be noted here that, when dealing with drug-related incidents, the academy has adopted the procedures as laid out in *Drugs: guidance for schools* (Reference: DfES/0092/2004) and that all staff, parents and pupils can request details of these procedures on from the academy.

Any medical emergencies will be dealt with as per Appendix A

- In cases of substance use/misuse or supply on the premises, during the school day or during school visits etc, the case will be discussed with the young person and a written record taken (see Appendix C); parents will be informed by the headteacher as soon as possible. The support of outside agencies will be sought if appropriate
- If a young person admits to using or supplying substances off the premises, the appropriate action will be taken by the headteacher, who will inform the parents (please refer to the Discipline policy)
- While there is no legal obligation to inform the police, they may also be involved at the discretion of the headteacher in consultation with governors and staff who know the young person well
- The academy will consider each incident individually and will employ a range of responses to deal with each incident. Specific cases will be managed as per Appendix B: all staff, pupils, parents will be informed of these issues.
- Drugs/Paraphernalia will be disposed of in accordance with Appendix B and detailed accordingly the Record of Incident - Appendix C
- Prescription medicines will be returned to the parent or taken to a pharmacy for disposal.
- The governing body will be involved in drug-related incidents as they are concerning other matters relating to the academy.

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## Appendix A

### Drug situations - medical emergencies

The procedures for an emergency apply when a person is at immediate risk of harm. A person who is unconscious, having trouble breathing, seriously confused or disorientated or who has taken harmful toxic substance, should be responded to as an emergency.

The main responsibility is for the pupil at immediate risk, but you also need to ensure the well-being and safety of others. Put into practice the academy's first-aid procedures. *If in any doubt, call medical help.*

#### Always:

- assess the situation
- if a medical emergency, send for medical help and ambulance

#### Before assistance arrives

##### *If the person is conscious:*

- ask them what has happened and to identify any drug used
- collect any drug sample and vomit for medical analysis
- **do not** induce vomiting
- **do not** chase or over-excite them if intoxicated from inhaling a volatile substance
- keep them under observation, warm and quiet

##### *If the person is unconscious:*

- ensure that they can breathe and place in the recovery position
- **do not** move them if a fall is likely to have led to spinal or other serious injury which may not be obvious
- **do not** give them anything by mouth
- **do not** attempt to make them sit or stand
- **do not** leave them unattended or in charge of another pupil
- notify parents/carers

##### *For needle stick(sharps) injuries:*

- encourage wound to bleed. **Do not** suck. Wash with soap and water. Dry and apply waterproof dressing
- if used/dirty needle seek advice from a doctor

#### When medical help arrives

- pass on any information available, including vomit and any drug samples
- Complete a medical record form as soon as you have dealt with the emergency. This form is based on Appendix 9 of *Drugs: guidance for schools*.

“Drugs” refers to all drugs including medicines (prescription and “over the counter”), volatile substances, alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs

## APPENDIX B: Responding to incidents involving drugs



