

Parsloes Primary School



Drugs Education Policy

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THE PURPOSE OF OUR POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to reinforce and safeguard the health and safety of all members of the Parsloes Primary School community. It also provides the basis for our school programme of drug and alcohol education.

DEFINITION OF A DRUG

For the purposes of this policy a drug is defined as a substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave.

(United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime)

THE SCHOOL'S STANCE TOWARDS DRUGS, HEALTH AND THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS:

Parsloes Primary School strongly opposes the misuse of drugs, including alcohol, tobacco and solvents, by all members of the school. We are also strongly opposed to the illegal possession or supply of these substances. Our opposition extends to misuse of drugs and alcohol during all our school activities both on and off the premises.

SCOPE OF OUR POLICY:

This policy applies to all members of our school, that is, all staff, children, parents/carers, governors and partner agencies working within the boundaries of our school and during educational visits.

THE ROLE OF GOVERNORS:

The school governors will review this policy in line with the review policy timetable.

ABOUT OUR PROGRAMME OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL EDUCATION:

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

WHAT WILL BE TAUGHT AND WHEN:

Key Stage 1

Children learn about rules and ways of keeping safe. They learn about the role of drugs as medicines and that all household products, including medicines, can be harmful if not used properly.

Key Stage 2

Children learn about the effects on the human body of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs and how these relate to their personal health. They also learn about which commonly available substances and drugs are legal and illegal, their effects and risks. They also learn about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and develop an understanding that pressure to behave in an unacceptable way can come from a variety of sources and basic techniques to resist this pressure.

HOW WE PLAN AND DELIVER OUR PROGRAMME OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL EDUCATION:

Our drug and alcohol education programme will be delivered as a carefully planned spiral curriculum leading to the systematic development of our children's knowledge, skills and understanding which are appropriate to their age and level of attainment.

Our drug and alcohol education programme will be delivered during PSHE and Science lessons.

Children with special educational needs (including the gifted and talented) will be included in the programme by re-emphasising or expanding particular aspects of the programme and being given opportunities to revisit knowledge and skills in different contexts using a variety of teaching and learning strategies.

THE METHODS AND RESOURCES WE USE:

Our programme of drug and alcohol education will be delivered within a safe, secure and supportive learning environment. Established ground rules for discussion will be used and teachers' and children's right to privacy will be respected.

External contributors

The role of external contributors is to enhance and support the established programme of drug and alcohol education delivered by our teachers.

Assessment, monitoring, evaluating and reviewing

Assessment of our drug and alcohol education programme will identify what knowledge and understanding our children have gained, the skills they have developed and how their feelings and attitudes have been influenced as a result of the drug education lessons.

The effectiveness of our programme of drug and alcohol education will be evaluated by seeking the views of both our children and staff.

The needs of children

We are aware of the impact that drug misuse by some adults can have on a child's education. We will be alert to behaviour which might indicate that a child is facing difficult circumstances out of school.

Referral and external support

Our children will be made aware of the various internal and external support structures for drug and alcohol issues during their PSHE lessons.

Involvement of parents/carers

Parents/carers are encouraged to approach the school if they are concerned about any issue relating to their child and drugs. We will refer parents/carers to other sources of help if necessary, for example, Subwize.

Subwize is a drug and alcohol support service for young people from all cultural backgrounds living and studying in Barking and Dagenham.