



Drug Education and Managing Drug Related Incidents

A Statement of Policy

Statement

Wolgarston recognises the important role it has to play in helping to deliver the Government's National Drug Strategy in tackling misuse in conjunction with parents/carers and our wider community.

Aim

To implement a drug education programme appropriate to the age, maturity and ability of our pupils and agree a range of responses and procedures for managing drug incidents which are understood by all members of the school community.

Definition

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime defines a drug as:

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

This Policy Statement refers to all drugs:

- all illegal drugs (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971)
- all illegal drugs, including alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances (those giving off a gas or vapour which can be inhaled), ketamine, khat and alkyl nitrites (known as poppers)
- all over-the counter and prescription medicines

Objectives

- to provide a drug education programme which gives young people the knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and relate these to their own and other's actions, both now and in their future lives
 - to take pupils' views into account so that the drug education programme is both appropriate to their age and ability and relevant to their particular circumstances
 - to ensure that the formal drug education programme taught within PSHE and Citizenship is supported by developing opportunities to promote drug education throughout the curriculum
 - to support the drug education programme by a whole school approach that includes Wolgarston's values and ethos, staff training and the involvement of pupils, staff, parents/carers, governors and the wider community
 - to ensure ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the drug education programme which includes staff, pupils, parents and governors
 - to send a clear message to the whole school community that the possession, use or supply of illegal and other unauthorised drugs within the school boundaries is unacceptable and could lead to permanent exclusion.
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- to clearly define the limits of Wolgarston's 'boundaries' and when our 'duty of care' responsibilities begin and end
- to be clear about what constitutes a drug incident
- to manage drug incidents confidently and consistently by developing a range of responses which ensure the safety of any individual(s) and balances the needs of the individual(s) against those of a wider community
- to maintain full records of every incident and investigations of such and ensure that these records are stored securely and accord with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1988
- to involve the pupil's parents/carers in any drug incident unless by doing so would jeopardise the pupil's safety - the Designated Teacher for Child Protection to be consulted over any incident
- to encourage parents/carers to approach Wolgarston if they are concerned about any issue related to drugs and their child so that we can refer them to other sources of help
- to identify pupils who are vulnerable to drug misuse and ensure they receive appropriate support
- to establish and maintain clear referral protocols and communication routes between Wolgarston and the range of agencies providing support to young people
- to use a range of strategies in order to detect illegal drug possession or use - this includes working closely with the local police within the school boundaries
- to agree procedures for taking possession of and disposing of illegal and other unauthorised drugs
- to work proactively with the local media to promote healthy school initiatives and ensure that enquiries are handled in such a way as to encourage any reporting of drug incidents to be fair and accurate

Commitment

As a school we are fully committed to the welfare of all our pupils and will constantly strive to improve our practices in order to achieve the above objectives.

As part of this we will seek to ensure that all staff receive appropriate drug awareness training and understand our drug policy and their role in implementing it.

Responsibilities

Ultimate responsibility for this policy's introduction and implementation lies with the Head Teacher in consultation with the Governing Body.

To achieve the above objectivesis designated as the senior member of staff with overall responsibility for all drug issues andas the lead governor.

Date adopted by Governing Body:	9 June 2008		
Frequency of Review:	Annual	Next Review:	June 2009

Location:	Document9
Author:	P J Tapp

Signature of Headteacher: _____

Signature of Chair of Governors: _____