

Glynwood Community Primary School



Drugs Policy

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Introduction

This school condones neither the misuse of drugs and alcohol by its staff/pupils, or the illegal supply of those substances. We are committed to the health and safety of our staff/pupils and will take action to safeguard their well being. We acknowledge the importance of our pastoral role in the welfare of young people, and through the general ethos of the school will seek to support members of the school community if and when necessary.

This policy aims to;

1. Show the schools commitment to preventing drug abuse.
2. Provide an effective framework for drugs education throughout the school.
3. Create an effective management tool for the handling of substance related incidents.
4. Through following the above we will ensure the school provides the best pastoral care possible for those affected by substance related incidents.

What do we mean by drugs?

This policy will cover all illegal substances, misuse of legal substances including alcohol, and all volatile substances.

We are a health promoting school and employ a no smoking policy.

Principals and Practice

This policy will support the schools ethos to promote education in the correct use of medication and enabling pupils to make informed choices.

The need for sensitive teaching material and methods is recognised which would be matched to the needs, concerns and culture of the pupils. The school would make careful use of visiting speakers who would be accompanied by a member of staff at all times and be familiar with this policy. We will seek to maintain good working links with the police, the LA and other relevant agencies.

The Head teacher will have overall responsibility for drugs related issues and will hold accurate information, collected and collated by the PSHE Co-

ordinator, about the law and the physical and psychological effects of drugs.

The school recognises that it is not legally required to inform the police of any knowledge it has of drug use or misuse. However, it also recognises that to knowingly condone the use or misuse of drugs on the premises is a serious criminal offence. It is also recognised that if the police are invited on to the premises then they have a duty to investigate.

Appropriate staff training for teaching and non-teaching staff will be on going and reviewed regularly.

Drugs Education

The drug education programme will be taught by the class teacher with support from other professionals as either health education or with a cross-curricular approach and will be evident in the usual planning. The Head teacher is responsible for the co-ordination of the different elements within the curriculum.

National curriculum requirements in Science will be covered using suitable materials according to the class. The class teacher will be honest and truthful in answering pupils questions as they occur with due consideration given to the age and ability of the pupil.

The school acknowledges its legal obligation for the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of its pupils, and will deliver the drugs education programme in a sensitive manner, upholding a policy of equal opportunities.

Management of Incidents

Any use or misuse of substance covered by this policy on school premises will first be reported to the Head teacher or in his/her absence to one of the Assistant Heads. He/she will then take appropriate action either to deal with the incident or to seek advice from relevant agencies.

Each incident will be dealt with according to its own circumstances with consideration given to discretion and confidentiality in order to protect members of the school community. Appropriate support, advice or sanctions will be sought and this policy will be linked to the discipline and exclusions policy and also the safeguarding policy.

A written report of any policy related incidents will be kept by the Head

teacher in a book called "Drugs related incidents" which will be kept in the school office. This book will be monitored by the Head teacher and staff in conjunction with the H&S Governors.

Removal of substances covered by this policy; The Site Manager will be responsible for ensuring the outside of the premises are safe and will remove any substances, debris or associated paraphernalia. Any needles will be placed in a suitable container and arrangements made with Gateshead council to have them removed. Illegal substances will either be disposed of, witnessed by another responsible adult and recorded or given to the agencies legally entitled to possess them e.g. the police.

Premises Issues

This policy covers all areas of the school at all times.

The consumption of alcohol will be permitted at the discretion of the Head teacher.

It will be by those eligible to do so, in an appropriate fashion in non-teaching areas agreed by the Head teacher.

The no smoking policy applies at all times.

On visits outside of school those adults accompanying the trip are only permitted to smoke during their 'time off' away from the children.

Communications

All staff and governors will be given a copy of this policy.

The Head teacher will be responsible for informing parents of its existence and making it available for inspection upon request.

All relevant parties have been contacted in the formulation of this policy.

Any request by the media for information regarding the contents of this policy or a drugs related incident on the school premises **MUST** be referred to the Head teacher in the first instance who may then consult with the LA press office before making comment

Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed on a biannual basis.

