



Lancaster Road Primary School

Drug Education Policy

Introduction

At Lancaster Road Primary School we are committed to ensuring a safe, secure, healthy and happy learning environment for our pupils and believe that by working together we can recognise the value of each and every people, helping them to achieve their full potential.

We are aware that the misuse of drugs may pose a threat to health, general welfare and the ability to achieve this potential. It is our aim, therefore, to equip our pupils with the knowledge, understanding and skills that enable them to make the sort of choices that lead to a healthy lifestyle.

Our P.S.H.E. programme incorporates drug education throughout the entire school and has the primary objective of helping children to become more confident and responsible young people. We teach children about the dangers to health posed by drug taking and we aim to help them to develop social skills that enable them to make informed moral and social decisions in relation to drugs in society.

Definition

The definition of a drug given by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is:

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

The term drug refers to legal substances such as alcohol, tobacco and solvents and medicines, as well as illegal substances.

Aims and Objectives

The purpose of the drug policy is to:

- clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities of the school;
- reinforce and safeguard the health and safety of pupils;
- clarify the school's approach to drugs for all staff, pupils, governors; parents/carers, external agencies and the wider community.
- offer guidance on developing, implementing and monitoring the teaching of drug education within the framework of P.S.H.E. and ensure that this complements the values and ethos of our school.
- reinforce the role of the school in contributing to local and national strategies, e.g. the Lancashire Healthy Schools Partnership, Every Child Matters.

By including Drugs education in our curriculum we aim to:

- 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
- to show that taking illegal drugs is a moral issue and that choices about drugs are moral choices.

Organisation

- Drugs education will predominantly be taught through PSHE and Science sessions (See relevant schemes of work). Drug education is also addressed on a daily basis as questions and incidents arise. At times teachers may choose to hold addition sessions in response to a particular event or issue;
- Each class has a PSHE folder with an updated scheme of work. Drugs education is covered in PSHE in Key stage one and two. The file includes a variety of lesson plans, activities and websites to enable the learning objectives with regards Drug education to be covered;
- The PSHE coordinator will be responsible for the keeping of any extra relevant resources and literature, and these will be readily available for all staff;
- We also recognise the importance of the role of parents within drug education and parents will be informed of the school's drug policy and the schemes of work used in order to teach drug education effectively;
- All children should be made aware of whom they can talk to about issues that may arise through PSHE Drug education and should be reminded of this throughout the year. The Drug Education policy will be readily available for staff, pupils and parents;
- A member of the senior management team must be informed of Child Protection issues.

Using Visitors and Outside Agencies

We use outside agencies and visitors from the community in order to deliver aspects of PSHE such as the police, fire-fighters, school nurse, road safety team, Life Education Bus, drug education programme, sex and relationships programme and healthy lifestyles programme.

Computing

The curriculum coordinator recognises the importance of Computing and has encouraged the inclusion and development of computing skills in the updated Scheme of Work. There are many opportunities included in the lesson plans; examples include internet research and interactive games and stories.

Smoking

The whole school is designated as a "no smoking" area. Smoking is forbidden and if pupils are found smoking on the site the Head teacher must be notified immediately and will take appropriate action.

Drug Related Incidents

The misuse of any drug is regarded as a drug related incident. In the event of any drug related incident, staff should immediately inform the Head teacher who will then assess:

- the legal requirements;
- the involvement under defined circumstances of outside agencies, including informing the police where appropriate;
- the types of behaviour, and the school's proposed course of action in response to them;
- the involvement of parents;
- arrangements for recording incidents and informing others of incidents, for example the LEA or local drugs action team;
- arrangements for safeguarding samples;
- health and welfare procedures.

Medicines

See First-Aid Policy with regard to medicines.

Equal Opportunities, including SEN and A&T Provision

At Lancaster Road School, we work to ensure all pupils have equal access to the curriculum regardless of gender, religion, race or disability. To achieve this aim, care is taken in choosing and allocating resources, organising the classroom and in planning, assessing, monitoring, reporting and delivering the curriculum.

The SenCo will be involved in accordance with the school's SEN policy and practice. Provision for meeting the needs of the able and gifted will be the joint responsibility of the class teacher; SENCO and the PSHE Coordinator. Children will be working at their own level in discussion times and extra support will be given where necessary.

Subject Review and Monitoring

The PSHE Coordinator is responsible for monitoring the standards of children's work and the quality of teaching. The subject leader supports colleagues in the teaching of Drug Ed, by passing on information and ideas, and delivering staff training as appropriate. We also hold staff meetings to discuss current issues and to make staff aware of new initiatives, practices and resources. The results of subject leader monitoring are then used to inform school improvement by feeding into the School Development Plan.

Links with Other Policies

This policy links particularly to the following policies: PSHE, Emotional Health and Wellbeing, Sex and Relationships Education, Safeguarding and Child Protection, Behaviour, Anti-bullying, Computing.