

Holy Trinity Church of England (Aided) Primary School



Policy Statement

Drug and Alcohol Policy

This policy is intended to state the school's approach to drug education and any issues related to the use of drugs and substances as they affect members of the school community, their safety, well-being and legal responsibilities.

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 and others who use the school.
- Clarify the school's approach to drugs for all staff, pupils, governors, parents/carers, external agencies and the wider community.
- Enable staff to manage drugs on school premises, and any incidents that occur, with confidence and consistency, and in the best interests of those involved.

Holy Trinity Primary School does not allow the possession or use of any illegal or unauthorised drugs within the boundaries of the school. This includes anywhere within the perimeter fence.

What is a Drug?

Current educational thinking agrees that a drug is 'any substance which when taken changes the way the body works or how a person behaves, thinks and feels.' (Drugscope) The word 'drug' includes:

- ☐ All legal drugs, including tobacco, alcohol, solvents & volatile substances, misused medicines and social drugs like alkyl nitrites (poppers)
- ☐ All illegal drugs
- ☐ Prescribed and over-the-counter medicines

What is Drug Education?

The aim of drug education is to provide opportunities for pupils to develop their skills, knowledge, attitudes and understanding about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy life style, relating this to their own and others actions.

At Holy Trinity Primary School we increase pupils' **knowledge and understanding** and clarify misconceptions about:

- The short- and long- term effects and risks of drugs
- The rules and laws relating to drugs
- The impact of drugs on individuals and families and communities
- The prevalence and acceptance of drug use among peers
- The complex moral, social emotional and political issues surrounding drugs.

We develop pupil's **personal and social skills** to make informed decisions and keep themselves safe and healthy, including:

- Assessing, avoiding and managing risk
- Communicating effectively
- Resisting pressures
- Finding information, help and advice
- Devising problem solving and coping strategies
- Developing self awareness and self esteem.

We enable pupils to explore their own and other peoples' **attitudes** towards drugs, drug users, including challenging stereotypes and exploring media and social influences.

We always do this taking into account the children's understanding and stages of development and with due regard to social, religious and cultural factors.

We teach pupils about drugs through a range of subjects using a variety of active teaching styles.

Drug Education through the Science National Curriculum:

Key Stage 1 : pupils are taught about the role of drugs as medicines

Key Stage 2 : pupils are taught about the effects on the human body of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs and how these relate to their personal health.

Drug Education through the PSHE and Citizenship Curriculum:

We use the Curriculum Plus modules relating to Drug and Alcohol education and the SEAL materials. Drug Education is delivered from Foundation to Year 6. We use a multi-agency approach including the use of external professionals (including the school nurse, the police and drama groups.)
There is no provision for withdrawal of pupils from lessons.

Staff Support and Training.

Training will be provided on a regular basis to ensure new members of staff are given appropriate training and support. Support is available through Education Leeds for staff who require it.

Assessment and Monitoring.

Drug education is assessed and monitored as part of our PSHE and Citizenship curriculum.

Management of illegal and unauthorised drugs at school.

Needles or syringes found on school premises will be placed in a sturdy, secure container using gloves by an adult member of staff.

School will confiscate alcohol, tobacco and medicines found in the possession of pupils and inform parents/carers who will be given the opportunity to collect them.

Volatile substances will be disposed of safely.

Confidentiality.

When children make disclosures, they are placing their trust in the member of staff's judgment and acknowledging that they need help. If a child makes a disclosure, it is not appropriate for a member of staff to offer complete confidentiality. Before allowing a child to make a full disclosure, therefore, it is essential that the member of staff should explain to the child that the information might need to be passed on to the Headteacher or designated teacher for Child Protection who may make a record and pursue Child Protection procedures if necessary.

Involving parents/carers.

We will inform parents/ carers immediately if a problem arises unless, following Child Protection procedures, we feel the child is at risk.

We will provide copies of this policy on request to any stakeholder.

Involving Governors.

Governors are involved in the development of the policy.

The member of staff with responsibility for drug education is Mrs Al-Kaseed

This policy was developed through discussion with staff and governors.

Policy renewed: September 2018