

Castlefields Primary School



Drug Education Policy

Date of policy: February 2025

Next review date: February 2027

Responsibility: Headteacher & Governors

Introduction

This document represents our school's response to mounting evidence which indicates that the mis-use of drugs is increasing within the young population and throughout society generally.

All pupils are entitled to drug education - 'drugs' being defined for the purpose of this policy as medicines, tobacco, alcohol, solvents and illegal drugs. At Castlefields Primary School we are committed to providing this education in partnership with others as part of the schools' approach to promoting the health and education of all members of the school community.

The National Curriculum science requires the following elements of drug education to be taught:

- At Key Stage 2 : Year 6 should learn how to keep their body healthy and how their bodies might be damaged – including how some drugs and other substances can be harmful to the human body. Pupils might work scientifically by: exploring the work of scientists and scientific research about the relationship between diet, exercise, drugs, lifestyle and health.

The Curriculum

Drug, alcohol and tobacco education is delivered within the Science and PSHE curriculum and is sometimes part of the Literacy curriculum. The programmes are planned and taught in line with the National Curriculum 2014. It is part of the schools approach in developing healthy, confident and assertive citizens who will be able to make the right choices for themselves and others.

Objectives for Drug Education

- To clarify the school's role in drug awareness and prevent misuse of drugs, as a healthy school.
- To give children accurate information about drugs and their effects.
- To promote positive attitudes towards a healthy lifestyle.
- To encourage responsible behaviour in relation to drug use and misuse.
- To challenge and try to modify attitudes when they lead to behaviour that could be harmful to health and relationships.
- To explore health and related social issues.

Teaching and Learning

Learning outcomes will reflect a balance between the promotion of knowledge and understanding, personal and social skills, attitudes and values:

Foundation/Key stage 1

The children learn about medicines within the context of a theme about ourselves, our families and care of our bodies. The children also learn about the safety issues related to medicines in the home.

They also develop an understanding that they are unique individuals and although they are all different they are all special in their own ways. (Self Esteem building)

Key Stage 2

Pupils use PSHE units to learn how to resist negative peer group pressure. They learn about class rules, belonging to different groups and how to have healthy bodies. In science they learn about factors that affect their health. They learn about helpful and harmful drugs. They learn about how to be healthy and the effect that harmful drugs can have on their bodies.

Monitoring and assessment

In Foundation Stage children *are* assessed in their Personal and Social development.

Monitoring and assessment takes place informally. Children are assessed at the beginning of a unit of work through class discussion, questionnaires and recording their ideas about what they already know and what they want to find out. At the end of a unit of work children evaluate what they have learnt.

Equal Opportunities

The needs of all children in the school have been taken into account when developing this policy. All children are included in the teaching of Personal, Social, Health Education, and drug education. Pupils with learning difficulties may need more help in understanding what sorts of behaviour are acceptable, and in developing the confidence and skills to resist pressure.