



# ENSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## DRUGS POLICY

### DRUGS

Definition: Drugs are substances of natural or synthetic origin which can be used to alter a person's emotional state, perception, body functioning or behaviour.

Drugs include: Alcohol, solvents (glue etc), tobacco, legal and illegal medicines and other substances such as heroin, ecstasy, amphetamine, cannabis etc.

### AIMS OF THE DRUGS POLICY DOCUMENT

To produce a document that can be readily and easily utilised by staff that may be involved in a drug related incident

#### Statements

- To develop a statement regarding the school's attitude towards illegal drugs, and alcohol.

**Note that the school has a 'no smoking' policy, which extends to e-cigarettes (vaping). Cigarettes and e-cigarettes may not be smoked in the school buildings or anywhere on school premises/grounds.**

#### Education

- To educate the children such that they can make informed decisions in the face of an ever-increasing exposure to drugs. This should include:
  - Information about what drugs are
  - The biological effects of drugs (medicinal and illegal) as outlined in the national curriculum
  - The social consequences of drug misuse
  - Information about how they may be approached by others offering drugs
  - Ensuring that special educational needs are addressed in terms of drugs education

#### Support

- To develop a caring and supportive attitude within the school community
- To encourage children to feel confident in discussing drug use with a trusted adult remembering the guidelines regarding confidentiality and child protection/safeguarding
- To inform and involve parents in the delivery of drugs education

#### Procedural response to drug related incidences

- To develop a proactive procedure in terms of education
- To develop a reactive response to actual or suspected drug use, which will include sanctions when appropriate.



- encourage the development of confidence, self-esteem and competence in personal relationships
- encourage a positive climate to express and communicate feelings
- enable pupils who have concerns to know how to access appropriate support

Review of programme: The review and co-ordination of these elements will be the responsibility of the Headteacher in consultation with the staff.

## **REACTIVE PROCEDURES**

### **CHILD PROTECTION AND CONFIDENTIALITY ISSUES**

In the event of a drug related incident involving an identified individual:

- Teachers should give the child time to talk but in line with safeguarding procedures, not probe, record exactly what the child says, and not promise to keep secrets, making it clear that they may need to talk to someone else in order to access help.
- Staff should inform the Headteacher.
- Headteacher should inform/consult with social services (MASH).
- No teacher should take on the role of investigator. This is the responsibility of Social Services and the police.
- The child's main carer should be informed.
- Others whom the Headteacher may consider informing include the school nurse and the child's GP.
- Any records of such incidents will be placed in a separate confidential file and kept in the head teacher's office.

### **RESPONSE TO ALCOHOL**

Any alcohol found on the premises (other than in the permissible circumstances outlined above) will be removed.

If a child is found intoxicated, the main carer will be informed, and medical attention sought if necessary.

### **RESPONSE TO DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS**

**Children, parents and staff should immediately inform the Head teacher if:**

- Any evidence of drug use is found on school property.
- A child is thought to possess such evidence.
- They hear reports of a child being offered such evidence.
- It is thought possible that a child's behaviour/personality has changed as a consequence of taking drugs.

### **STAFF PROCEDURES**

**It is the head teacher's responsibility to manage the incident and contact any relevant professionals such as the police and social services.**

**In the event of staff finding any material thought to be a substance of misuse**

- The head teacher should be informed.
- Other children should be kept away.

- An assessment should be made concerning whether or not it is safe to handle (gloves may need to be used).
- School staff should not dispose of the substance; it may be vital medical information if a child is found intoxicated and the cause unknown. It may need to be identified/used as evidence by the police.
- Information should be passed on (through the head teacher) to social services and police when necessary.
- The child's main carer will be notified and possibly the GP and school nurse (see 'child protection and confidentiality issues').

**Remember that the misuse of drugs can result in unconsciousness. Remember the emergency procedure:**

## **EMERGENCY PROCEDURE**

- **Summon help from first aider**
- **Ring 999**
- **Check airways**
- **Place in recovery position**
- **Keep person warm**
- **When the above has been carried out, ensure a member of family/carers has been contacted**

## **SANCTIONS**

Sanctions against pupils who misuse drugs will be decided only after dialogue between the Headteacher, the Governing Body, the Police Liaison Advisor and any other appropriate professionals or authorities and will take into account:

- The short and long term welfare of the pupil concerned
- The short and long term welfare of other pupils
- The need for consistency in connection with
  - Other drug-related incidents
  - Previous treatment of the same pupils following digression
  - The message conveyed by the School Drugs Education Policy

**This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Adminstrating Medication Policy.**

**Date Adopted:** January 2023

**Review Date:** January 2026

**Signature of Chair of Governors:** *Devin Caswell*

**Signature of Headteacher:** *S. Mann*