

Ewanrigg Junior School Drug Education Procedure

The school recognises the need to provide a balanced drug education programme, containing accurate and up to date information alongside the development of life skills. Drug prevention is a whole school issue and any teacher of drugs education does not need to be an authority on drugs as it is the life skills approach that is crucial to this area of learning. This procedure applies to all pupils, volunteers and staff (teaching and non-teaching) including when on off-site visit and trips.

Aim/Objectives

The main aims of our drug education are:

- To promote positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles and encourage a healthy respect for all substances taken into the body.
- To provide opportunities for pupils to acquire knowledge and identify the distinction between unauthorised and authorised drugs
- To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of drug use and misuse.
- To enable children to discuss moral questions and share their thoughts in a safe environment.
- To enable children to access support if they have concerns about their own or other drugs misuse
- To enable each pupil to develop decision making skills, confidence and self-esteem.
- To provide children with knowledge and information about drugs and the harmful effects they can have on people's lives.
- To help children respect their own bodies and equip them with the knowledge, attitudes and skills to build their self-esteem and resilience to avoid peer pressure or unwanted drug offers.

The school provides a planned drug education curriculum within the guidance of the national curriculum science programme of study. In addition to science Personal, Social, Health education (PSHE) and citizenship provide many opportunities for drug education.

The school:

- recognises that children of all ages and abilities may encounter the positive and negative effects of drugs, whether used legally or illegally and that many children will have some knowledge of drugs through media, 'street talk' or personal experience although this may be inaccurate or incomplete.

- will strive to use pupils' existing knowledge and beliefs as a baseline for the development of the programme.
- acknowledges that special consideration must be given to particular groups of young people, including pupils with additional educational needs, pupils whose parents/carers or relatives use drugs and pupils vulnerable to drug misuse.

Methodology and Resources

Drug education within the school shares the features expected in any other subject area delivered in school; it will be taught in a safe, secure and supportive learning environment. A range of teaching strategies will be used including role play, discussion and group work, debates and circle time. Teaching resources will be kept up to date, be differentiated and be culturally and age appropriate. Resources are kept in the PSHE resource cupboard.

Class teachers will maintain responsibility for the overall drug education programme and any external contributors will be used to enhance lessons, not as a substitute teacher. When using external contributors the school will ensure that the sessions are pre-planned and the school will adhere to the external visitors' policy. A teacher will be present at all times when external contributors are delivering lessons.

Staff Support and Training

All staff (teaching and non-teaching) should have general drug awareness and an understanding of the policy, including management of drug incidents. The school will strive to provide adequate staff training and development to support this via the Healthy Schools Team.

Assessment, Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The elements of drugs education delivered as part of the science curriculum will be assessed in accordance with the national curriculum requirements. The learning from other elements of drug education will be assessed as part of the P.S.H.E. provision. The provision will be reviewed regularly by the PSHE coordinator.