

Balderstone St Leonard's C of E Primary School



Drug Education Policy

'This school is part of a strong and vibrant Christian community with a clear mission to inspire in our children a love of God, a love of each other and a love of learning'.

Our vision

Balderstone St Leonard's is a school with Christian values at its heart. We are proud of its history and our strong links with the vibrant community to which we belong. We welcome and celebrate every child, helping all children to develop their character and full academic potential. We promote high aspirations and a love of learning through a rich and varied curriculum.

Purpose

Drug Education will enable pupils to develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding about drugs and to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. It will be delivered through the PSHE (personal, social and health education) curriculum, Science and Citizenship lessons and Collective Worship

All young people need high quality drug and alcohol education so they have a thorough knowledge of their effects and harms and have the skills and confidence to choose not to use drugs and alcohol. Schools have a clear role to play in preventing drug and alcohol misuse as part of their pastoral responsibilities to pupils. (Drug Strategy 2010: Supporting people to live a drug free life: HM Government)

Definition

The term 'drugs' and 'drug education', unless otherwise stated, is used throughout this document to refer to all drugs:

- all illegal drugs (those controlled by Misuse of Drugs Act 1971)
- all legal drugs including alcohol, tobacco and volatile substances (those giving off a gas or vapour which can be inhaled)
- all over the counter and prescription medicines

Aims

It is likely that all pupils may be exposed to the effects and influences of drugs in the wider community and, as they grow older, to be increasingly exposed to opportunities to try both legal and illegal drugs. Through implicit and explicit learning experiences we aim therefore to:

- Increase pupils' knowledge of the dangers of smoking, alcohol abuse, the use of solvents and drug abuse.
- Help pupils to understand the beneficial part drugs play in society
- Teach pupils that all medicines are drugs but not all drugs are medicines
- Educate pupils on how to make informed choices
- Teach pupils strategies to resist peer pressure.

The effective teaching of drug education will increase pupils' knowledge of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs and enable them to:

- Improve their self- esteem and develop self confidence
- Make informed choices and decisions
- Develop personal initiative and to be able to take responsibility
- Recognise personal skills in themselves and others
- Maintain and develop relationships
- Develop assertiveness in appropriate situations
- Develop the motivation to succeed.

As previously stated, this will be taught by class teachers through PSHE and Citizenship and Science lessons. The school will use outside agencies when appropriate to facilitate the dissemination of information. For example, all classes have a lesson in the Life Education mobile classroom once every two years.

Health and safety

All forms of illegal substances are forbidden on the school premises. All forms of legal drugs are forbidden on the school premises, unless they are a prescribed medication (see Supporting Children with Medical Conditions policy). Any medication prescribed or over the counter, in use by staff must be kept securely away from children.

Drug-related incidents

The misuse of any drug on the school premises is regarded as a drug-related incident. In the event of any such incident staff should immediately inform the Head teacher or the most senior member of staff present at the time. The incident will then be assessed under the following criteria:

- The legal requirements
- The need to involve any outside agencies, including informing the police if appropriate
- The involvement of parents

- Arrangements for recording such incidents and informing others eg the LA
- Health and safety procedures

Medicines

No medication is to be taken by children in school unless the parent has completed the relevant form in the school administrator's office. See Supporting Children with Medical Conditions Policy.

Date adopted by Governing Body: October 2015

Date for review: July 2018