

Coppermill Primary School



Drug Education Policy

Ratified by the Curriculum and Achievement Committee on:

21 January 2015

To be reviewed: Every three years

Next review: Spring 2018

Rationale

Coppermill Primary School recognises that all drugs including medicines, legal and illegal drugs, can cause harm. We aim, through this policy and its guidelines, to provide clear and consistent procedures, which promote safety and good management in line with *Drugs: Guidance for Schools, DfES 2004*. Coppermill School acknowledges that we cannot solve all the problems of drug misuse in society, but recognise that education can play a key role in ensuring that young people know the risks of taking drugs, have knowledge and skills to resist and know how to access support and help if needed.

Aims

- To provide opportunities for pupils to develop their knowledge skills and attitudes and understand about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, relating this to their own and others actions.
- To help young people resist drug misuse in order to achieve their full potential in society.
- To promote and safeguard the health and safety of pupils and staff within the School.

How is Drugs education provided?

In line with national recommendations, Drugs education at Coppermill will be delivered through the PSHE and Science frameworks and should cover the following areas:

Early Years Foundation Stage (up to 5 years)

Personal Social and Emotional Development

- To understand what is right, what is wrong and why
- To value and contribute to their own well being and self control

Physical Development

- To recognise the importance of keeping healthy and those things which contribute to a healthy lifestyle

Key Stage 1 (5-7 year olds)

Pupils learn about being safe with medicines and household substances and the basic skills for making healthy choices and following safety rules.

Key Stage 2 (7 – 11 year olds)

Pupils learn about the effects and risks of alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances and illegal drugs and basic skills to manage risky situations. They learn how to make informed choices about their health, how to resist pressure to do wrong and to take more responsibility for their actions.

Dealing with Drug-Related Incidents

In the case of all drug related incidents, the Head Teacher (or a member of the Senior Leadership Team, in the absence of the Head Teacher) should be informed. The school response will be part of a support network developed to ensure that the school uses its powers to protect the long-term welfare of all the pupils in the school. External agencies may support the school in dealing with incidents appropriately. Depending on the individual

circumstances there are a range of possible responses that the school may implement, with guidance from the Local Authority, where necessary.

Confidentiality and Child Protection

Drugs education will take place in a secure and supportive environment however the children will be made aware that teachers **cannot** offer unconditional confidentiality. All staff involved in delivering and supporting Drugs Education should be alert to the signs of abuse, neglect and exploitation. The school has a separate Child Protection Policy. Effective Drugs education may bring about disclosures of child protection issues and staff should be aware of the procedures for reporting their concerns.

Review and Monitoring

The Drugs Education Policy is reviewed every two years by governors. The programme is monitored by the PSHE Co-ordinator.

Equal Opportunities

The school is committed to the provision of Drugs education to all of its pupils. Our programme aims to respond to the diversity of children's cultures, faiths and family backgrounds.

Definition of Drugs

The term drug refers to a substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave. Including all:

- Illegal drugs (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971)
- Legal drugs including alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances (those giving off gas or vapour which can be inhaled) and alkyl nitrates (known as poppers)
- Over the counter and prescription medicines