

Coppermill Primary School



# Drug Education Policy

Ratified by the Curriculum and Achievement Committee: June 2018

Review Cycle: Every three years

Next review: Spring 2021

## **Rationale**

Coppermill recognises that all drugs (legal and illegal) 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 'DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools', *DfE, 2012*. Coppermill recognise that education can play a key role in ensuring that young people know the risks of taking drugs; have the knowledge and skills to resist illegal drugs and to know how to access support and help if needed.

## **Aims**

- To provide opportunities for pupils to develop their knowledge, skills and attitudes towards drugs and to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, relating this to their own and others' actions.
- To help young people make correct and informed life choices.
- To 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***

#### *Personal Social and Emotional Development*

- To understand what is right, what is wrong and why
- Making the right choices
- 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***

Pupils learn basic skills for making healthy choices and following safety rules.

There will be two different focuses:

- Year One - '*medicines and people who help us*'
- Year Two - '*keeping safe*'

### ***Key Stage 2***

Pupils learn how to make informed choices about their health, how to resist pressure to do make wrong choices and to take responsibility for their actions.

There will be four different focuses:

- Year Three - '*smoking*'
- Year Four - '*alcohol*'
- Year Five - '*legal and illegal drugs*'
- Year Six - '*preventing early use*'

### **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.

### **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. See the separate Child Protection Policy for more information. 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 three years by governors. The programme is monitored by the PSHCE 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