



DRUG EDUCATION POLICY

Date of Last Review: November 2017

Date of Next Review: November 2018

Responsibility: Mr M. O'Shaughnessy

Advisory Body Signature:

This policy was updated to acknowledge the changes in Keeping Children Safe in Education (Sept 2016) and the DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools (Sept 2012).

The Ravensbourne School is committed to the health and safety of their students and will take all necessary steps to safeguard their well-being. This involves making it clear that the school does not condone the misuse of drugs and alcohol by its students, or the illegal supply of such substances.

Guidance is therefore given in this policy with regards to:

1. Drug Education
2. Dealing with drug related incidents
3. SMSC Policy
4. All Safeguarding Policies

This Policy applies to staff, students, parents/carers, Governors and partner agencies

DRUG EDUCATION

In 1998 the Government announced a ten year strategy for tackling drug misuse and one of its main aims was to deliver a drugs education programme which would "help young people resist drug misuse in order to achieve their full potential in society". H.M.S.O 1998. Additionally, the Government's Drug Strategy 2010 outlines the bullet points below:

- Provide

In order to support such an aim, the drug education programme at The Ravensbourne School will aim to achieve good practice by:

- Delivering drug education as part of Personal, Social, Health Economic Education and Citizenship (PSHCE) – ensuring students have the opportunities to:
 1. Increase knowledge and understanding of the risks and consequences of legal and illegal drugs, including via the FRANK service
 2. Explore their own and others attitudes and values towards drugs and drug users
 3. Develop their personal and social skills which enable them to communicate effectively, recognise choices, make decisions and access help and support when needed
 4. Informing students and those who support them about the risk and consequences of drug misuse, including alcohol, tobacco and solvents
 5. Ensuring that students deemed at risk of developing drug problems receive appropriate and specific intervention
 6. Ensuring that students from all backgrounds, whatever their culture, gender or race, have access to appropriate programmes

PSHCE

The school delivers the PSHCE programme jointly through Form Time and SMSC days, as such these policies will give further guidance.

- Provide accurate information on drugs and alcohol through education
- Tackling problem behaviour in students with wider powers of search and confiscation
- Work with local authority organisations health partners, the police and others.

SCIENCE

In KEY STAGE 3 students are taught:

- That the abuse of alcohol, solvents, tobacco and other drugs affect health
- That the body's natural defence may be enhanced by immunisation and medicines
- How smoking affects lung structure and gas exchange

In KEY STAGE 4 students are taught:

- The effects of solvents, tobacco, alcohol and other drugs on bodily functions

DEALING WITH DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS

This part of the policy works in line with and does not supersede the Behaviour for Learning Policy.

Smoking

Should a student be found smoking, she/he will be reported to the Behaviour for Learning Director KS3/4 office. A letter is sent home informing parents of the incident. A one hour detention will be issued. The Progress team will be informed.

The Behaviour for Learning Director should inform the Phase Assistant Headteachers and SLT about general trends with regard to smoking e.g. incidence and location, so that more careful monitoring of certain areas of the School could result.

Alcohol

Students are not allowed to bring alcohol onto the School premises for any reason. Any student who is found with alcohol on his/her person should be referred to the Behaviour for Learning Director. The alcohol should be confiscated and the parents informed and invited to discuss the matter. New psychoactive substances and other unauthorised substances are treated in the same section of this Policy.

The alcohol should be returned directly to the parents, or discarded if that is the wish of the parents.

If a student is found suffering from the effects of alcohol, she/he should be isolated from lessons and kept in constant contact with a member of The Ravensbourne School staff to ensure his/her safety. The student should be referred to the Phase Assistant Headteacher who will interview the student. Parents will be informed, and may be asked to come to collect the student from School. Counselling or referral to the School Nurse may be appropriate "follow-up" action.

Illegal substances

Students are not allowed to bring illegal substances onto the School site. Anyone found in possession of an illegal substance should be referred to the Headteacher. The Headteacher will take possession of the substance to ensure the safety of the student, and liaise with the police about appropriate action.

Isolation of the student or fixed term exclusion may be appropriate in order to give the School, in consultation with others, time to decide the best course of action.

Any person suspected of being under the influence of drugs whilst in School should also be referred to the Headteacher, but priority must be given to ensuring the safety of the student.

The Headteacher will constantly monitor the situation with regard to illegal drugs within the School and the community, and liaise with the police and other agencies to consider what action should be taken. Permanent exclusion should only be considered as a last resort as students permanently excluded become significantly more vulnerable to drugs than those within a formal educational setting.

Students who are involved in drug taking whether it be smoking, drinking or use of illegal substances should be offered support and be informed about agencies in the area who can offer help to them and their parents. Students should be told that confidentiality cannot be guaranteed.

This Policy will be under continuous review by the Safeguarding Lead.

This Policy should be used as part of the collection of Safeguarding Policies.

For Policy and Protocol on searching students please see Behaviour for Learning Policy.

Staff will review regular training as part of the Safeguarding requirements.