

Substance misuse policy

Next to be reviewed: January 2025

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Contents

Introduction	3
Definition	3
Drug incidents in school.....	3
Drug education.....	3
Statutory duty of the school	4
Implementation of the policy	4
Responses for managing drug related incidents.....	5
Staff responses to drug incidents	6
References:	7

Introduction

The aim of this policy is to acknowledge and clarify the school's role in drug prevention through education and informed choice so that pupils have an understanding and knowledge of drug related issues. The policy provides information and guidance about drug education, as well as procedures to respond to any drug-related incident, for pupils, teachers, support-staff and outside agencies or individuals.

The policy aims to ensure that the approach taken on the issue of drugs is a whole-school one and is part of our commitment to the health and well-being of the whole school community. PSHCE teachers will need to be confident and skilled to teach drug education and pupils need to receive up to date, relevant and accurate information as well as support.

This policy aims to make clear procedures for responding to and managing drug-related incidents. Sanctions for incidents will be consistent with the school's BfL policy. As a matter of course, all staff, parents/carers and pupils are reminded of this policy on a regular basis. The policy is available on the school website for reference. This policy applies at all times to the school premises, school transport as well as school visits / trips / fieldwork / residentials and other relevant situations.

Definition

'Drugs' are taken here to mean those that are legal (such as alcohol, tobacco and solvents), over the counter and prescribed drugs and illegal drugs such as cannabis, ecstasy, amphetamines, heroin, crack/cocaine, LSD etc.

Drug incidents in school

At Kettlethorpe High School the possession and/or use of drugs in school, during the school day or while travelling to/from school is strictly prohibited unless prescribed for medicinal purposes. These should be placed with the school First Aider. Any breach of this rule will result in fixed term or permanent exclusion from school. Pupils must not give drugs of any kind to other pupils – this includes paracetamol or asthma inhalers.

The drugs/substances covered by this policy are not to be bought, sold or otherwise exchanged/given or brought onto school premises during the school day, or while pupils are on school visits/trips. Individual exceptions will be considered for pupils who require prescription medicines where appropriate.

Drug education

The school provides a planned drug education curriculum through the following:

The National Curriculum science order outlines the content of the statutory drugs education:

- Key Stage 3, 11-14 year olds should be taught that abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs affects health; that the body's natural defences may be enhanced by immunisation and medicines; and how smoking affects lung structure and gas exchange

PSHE reflects other statutory topics, in the RSE and Health Curriculum (2020) that reflect knowledge, understanding, attitudes and social skills. This will:

- Enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices
- Promote positive attitudes to healthy lifestyles
- Provide accurate information about substances
- Increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse, including legal considerations
- Widen understanding about related health and social issues
- Pupils will study the effects of solvents and other illegal drugs
- Enable young people to identify sources of appropriate advice and personal support.

On the whole, it will be teachers who will teach drug education but, where appropriate, outside visitors may make a contribution. Such visitors should be used in a planned way and their contributions will be evaluated. Teachers will have access to on-going advice, support and training as part of their own professional development.

The school actively uses agencies such as the Local Authority, West Yorkshire Police, Spectrum and other external speakers to support the delivery of drug and substance misuse education.

Statutory duty of the school

The Headteacher takes overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation. A member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will be responsible for the coordination of curriculum delivery related to drugs education and for aspects related to the school's Pupil Support policy and pupil wellbeing. The Headteacher will ensure that all staff dealing with substance issues are adequately supported and trained.

Implementation of the policy

In incidents involving substance misuse or supply on or off the premises/during the school day, and following discussion with the pupil and staff, action will proceed as follows:

- Any medical emergencies will be dealt with in accordance with our policy on such situations

- In cases of substance use/misuse or supply/giving on or off the premises, during the school day or during school visits/trips etc., the Headteacher must be informed (or a member of the SLT in his absence)
- The case will be discussed with the young person and a written record taken. This may be at the time of the incident or by an arranged later appointment
- Parents/carers will be informed by the Headteacher or a member of the SLT as soon as is possible
- The support of outside agencies will be sought if appropriate
- If a young person admits to using or supplying/giving substances on or off the premises, the appropriate action will be to inform the Year Manager who will inform the Headteacher/SLT who will inform the parents/carers
- The Police will always be informed if a criminal act has been committed
- The school will consider each incident individually and will employ a range of responses to deal with each incident
- The Governing Body will be informed of drug-related incidents through the Behaviour and Discipline sub-group and directly to the Chair
- The Headteacher will take responsibility for liaison with the media, where required.

Additional support and advice is available from the School First Aider, Safer Schools Police Partner and the Local Authority.

All staff, parents/carers and young people will be reminded of this policy, and its procedures, on a regular basis. The sanctions likely to be applied to incidents involving drugs/substances are in line with the school’s Pupil Support Policy in relation to risk assessment and pupil/staff health & safety.

Responses for managing drug related incidents

Behaviour	Consequence
Supplying/making available class ‘C’ illegal drugs	Permanent exclusion
Supplying/making available class ‘A/B’ illegal drugs	Permanent exclusion
Supplying drugs for financial gain or similar gain	Permanent exclusion
Possession of illegal drugs (any class)	Fixed term suspension &/or permanent exclusion
Consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs	Fixed term suspension & permanent exclusion for repeated offences

Supplying/making available alcohol or tobacco to pupils under the age of 18	Fixed term suspension or permanent exclusion
Abuse of solvents/gases	Involvement of School First Aider or fixed term suspension
Smoking/vaping on site	School detention, removal from lessons & fixed term suspension for repeated offences

Staff responses to drug incidents

Incident	Action
Pupil is seen with drugs in his/her possession	<p>A member of the SLT must be informed. The drugs will be confiscated and handed to the Police</p> <p>The pupil will be questioned</p> <p>A fixed term suspension and/or permanent exclusion may follow</p>
Pupil appears to be under the influence of drugs/alcohol	<p>A member of the SLT must be informed. The pupil will be questioned and searched</p> <p>The pupil will be isolated from other pupils in school</p> <p>Parents/carers will be advised to seek medical support to ensure the safety of their child</p> <p>Parents/carers will be advised to seek counselling for the pupil</p> <p>A fixed term suspension and/or permanent exclusion may follow</p>
Pupil seen consuming drugs	<p>A member of the SLT must be informed.</p> <p>Any remaining drugs will be confiscated and the Police will be informed</p> <p>Parents/carers will be advised to seek medical support for the pupil</p> <p>A permanent exclusion may follow</p>
A member of staff suspects that a pupil has been consuming drugs or may be about to consume drugs	<p>A member of the SLT must be informed</p> <p>The pupil will be questioned</p> <p>A risk assessment will be undertaken</p> <p>Parents/carers will be informed</p> <p>Police Liaison Officer informed</p>

A pupil is caught smoking/vaping on the school premises	Year Manager to be informed The pupil will be searched for items related to smoking such as cigarettes, e-cigarettes, lighters, matches, roll up tobacco, papers, filters etc. Pupil will be issued detention and parents/carers informed. Repeat offences will result in removal and then fixed term suspension from school
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References:

Drugs Advice for Schools: DFE-00001-2012

Drug Concern

This organisation provides a helpline, support groups and training for parents and carers concerned about their child's drug use.

Tel: 0845 120 3745

FRANK (replaces the National Drugs Helpline):

FRANK is the national drugs awareness campaign aiming to raise awareness amongst young people of the risks of illegal drugs, and to provide details of sources of information and advice. It also provides support to parents/carers, helping to give them the skills and confidence to communicate with their children about drugs.

24 Hour Helpline: 0800 77 66 00

Email: frank@talktofrank.com

Website: www.talktofrank.com