



WILLIAM DAVIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Drug Education Policy



This policy was agreed in November 2018

To be reviewed November 2023.



William Davis School Drug Education Policy

Why do we have a Drug Education policy?

We are committed to investing in our pupils' health and well being because we believe that education is about the **whole child not just about academic success**. We want our children to leave William Davis **physically healthy with healthy habits; respectful and responsible; aspirational as learners. (WD Vision Statement 2018)**. Drugs education is essential and relevant to children in the real world. Through our approaches to drugs education we are seeking to develop and enhance life skills which will help them in the future.

In developing our policy and programme of study we have taken full account of the DfES guidance contained in 'Guidance for schools' (2004) and the Quality Standard for Drugs Education.

This policy promotes practices within the school to reinforce our vision, and to remove or discourage practices that negate them.

What is drug education?

For the purpose of this policy and our drug education programme, drugs are defined as: *a substance people take to change the way they think, feel or behave*. Our school uses the term 'drug' to include, caffeine, alcohol, tobacco, medicines, illegal drugs and other substances such as solvents and poppers.

Drugs Education is part of **Personal Social Health and Economic (PSHE) Education** and should enable pupils to develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Through the PSHE curriculum children will develop their attitudes and values; their personal and social skills; their knowledge and understanding.

Attitudes and values

- exploring, considering and understanding attitudes and values towards drugs, drug use and drug users
- developing critical thinking as part of decision making
- learning to respect & value difference and diversity
- having structured opportunities for the exploration of personal attitudes and values towards drugs, drug use and drug users
- exploring attitudes and values towards drugs, drug use and drug users

Personal and social skills

- learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively
- learning to manage change



- developing self-respect and empathy for others
- learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference
- learning to make informed choices
- exploring the risks and consequences of their own and others' actions and choices in relation to drugs, drug use and drug users
- learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse
- developing inter-personal skills
- having opportunities to develop self esteem
- learning about themselves
- learning about playing a positive and active role as citizens

Knowledge and understanding

- learning about a safe and healthy lifestyle based on accurate information.
- learning accurate information about drugs, drug use and drug users
- having myths and misunderstandings about drugs, drug use and drug users dispelled
- learning about seeking appropriate help and advice
- learning about their community and the society of which they are a part in relation to drugs, drug use and drug users
- developing pupils' understanding of rules and laws

How is drug education provided?

1. within the PSHE curriculum using the Drugs Education programme -Christopher Winters SoW; and within the science curriculum
2. through other cross-curriculum topics eg drama, literacy
3. assemblies
4. School Council, Pupil Parliament and other debating opportunities
5. pastoral support for pupils experiencing difficulties
6. by the provision of appropriate information through leaflets and books
7. response to individual incidents

Teaching Methods & Resources

Continuity and progression will be generated through the adoption of the Christopher Winters Scheme of Work; it has clearly defined and progressive learning objectives covering knowledge, skills and understanding. All pupils receive regular, timetabled PSHE teaching. PSHE is taught both as a discrete subject and through other appropriate cross-curricular links.

Safe Learning Environment

PSHE is conducted in a safe learning environment through the use of ground rules and distancing techniques so that pupils are not put on the spot or expected to discuss their own personal issues in class, for example:



- nobody (teacher or pupil) should be expected to answer a personal question
- no one will be forced to take part in a discussion

Active learning

Active learning methods, which involve children's participation, will be used whenever possible.

Answering and Asking Questions

In most cases teachers will attempt to answer children's questions and concerns in a sensitive, age and development appropriate manner. Individual teachers will use their skill and discretion in these situations and if necessary refer to the PSHE Lead for advice and support. Teachers will also follow the following guidance:

- Teachers will establish clear parameters about what is appropriate and inappropriate in a whole-class setting
- If a child's question is inappropriate to address with the whole class the teacher should acknowledge the question and attend to it later on an individual basis
- If a question is too personal the teacher should remind the pupils of the ground rules
- Teachers will set the tone by speaking in a matter-of-fact way and ensuring that pupils discuss issues in a way encourages positive participation
- Pupils may have opportunities to write down questions anonymously and post them in a question box. The teacher will have time to prepare answers to questions before the next session, and can choose not to respond to any questions which are inappropriate to address in whole class lessons

Visitors

A visitor, such as a school community nurse, may at times supplement the drugs education curriculum as a planned event with the teacher present.

Resources

Teaching resources are selected on the basis of their appropriateness to pupils.

Assessment

Pupils existing knowledge needs to be the starting point for all drugs teaching and learning. Needs assessments is built into some lesson planning as each class may have different knowledge, experience and understanding.

The elements of drug education that form part of the science curriculum are assessed in accordance with the requirements of the National Curriculum. All other elements of drug education are assessed within the PSHE curriculum framework.



Equal Opportunities

The school's drug education programme is designed to promote the achievement of our aims and to ensure that all children have equality of access to them.

Children may have varying needs regarding drug education depending on their circumstances and background. The school strongly believes that all pupils should have access to drug education that is relevant to their particular needs.

To achieve this, the school's approach to drug education will take account of:

- ethnic and cultural diversity
- varying home backgrounds
- special educational needs

Children who are assessed to be vulnerable will receive additional drug education support e.g. one to one support or additional sessions.

Drug related incidents

SLT respond to drug related incidents in the school community and in the local neighbourhood with a focus on health and safety of children, staff and parents; they will contact the local police or other services if appropriate. We believe that drugs education is a key element in the prevention of, and part of our response to such incidents in school. Our drugs education programme is designed to support and complement the way in which we manage drug related incidents.

Administration of medicines

Details of the school's policy on the storage and administration of medicines is contained in our 'Medical Conditions Policy'. Our management of medicines is designed to visibly and consistently reinforce our teaching and learning objectives on the safe use of medicines.

Personnel

The Drugs Education co-ordinator is **Claudia Wesse**

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The governor responsible for drugs education is **Russell Viegas (tbc)**

Consultation & Training

The school is committed to ensuring that everyone involved with teaching, or supporting the teaching of drug education receives appropriate and ongoing professional development in order to maintain whole school consistency and high standards for the children in our care.



In order for everyone to be consulted effectively it may be necessary to ensure that governors and parents receive awareness training and/or information about drugs. The school ensures parents/ carers are:

- made aware of the schools approach and rationale for drug education through the policy and newsletters
- encouraged to support their child's learning at home through shared learning activities

Monitoring and Evaluation

The programme is regularly evaluated by the Drug Education lead. The views of pupils and teachers who deliver the programme are used to make changes and improvements to the programme on an ongoing basis.

This policy is available to the school community on the school website and in the office.

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This policy will be reviewed in November 2023.

Policy Links

PSHE Education

Medicial Needs

Science

Physical Activity

Behaviour

Safeguarding- Visitors