

## Yorkley Primary School Drugs Policy

### **Policy status**

Recommended

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the policy is to inform all staff, governors and visitors to Yorkley School of our approach to drug education and how we safeguard our pupils from drug misuse. Through our curriculum and our school ethos, we promote pupils' wellbeing and help them develop the skills and attitudes to make healthy and safe decisions.

### **Definition:**

The definition of drugs used in this policy is the definition given by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: "A substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave". This is also used by the DfE in its drugs guidance. This refers to all drugs, including: tobacco products, caffeine, solvents and other volatile substances, over the counter drugs and medicines, prescribed medicines including tranquilizers and painkillers and any illegal drugs.

### **Aims:**

To achieve our drug education programme we will help pupils:

- gain knowledge and understanding about the effects, risks, dangers of drugs and correct myths and misunderstandings.
- develop skills to make informed decisions, including communication, self-awareness, negotiation, finding information, help and advice, helping others and managing situations involving drugs.
- develop skills to manage situations involving drugs including assessing and avoiding risks, assertiveness and refusal skills and helping others including family and the wider community.
- explore their own and other peoples' attitudes to drugs, drug use and drug users, including challenging stereotypes, dispelling myths and exploring media and social influences.

### **Curriculum Organisation:**

The drug education teaching programme is age-appropriate for each Key Stage.

Key Stage 1 focuses on medicines and how to be safe, being ill and getting better, being safe with household substances and risks.

Key Stage 2 focuses on effects and risks of smoking and alcohol, understanding what is wrong, resisting pressure to do wrong and making safe decisions.

Drug education is taught as part of the statutory elements of Science and the non-statutory framework for PSHCE.

**Equal Opportunities:**

All children have an entitlement to access the PSHCE curriculum which includes the teaching of drug education. All children will have access to appropriate resources within the school. These will reflect a multi-cultural society, without stereotyping or discrimination. All children will be given the opportunity to participate in all activities regardless of gender, race or ability.

**Confidentiality:**

If a child shares information with a member of staff in relation to drugs and there is any concern that the child could be at risk or vulnerable, this information must be passed on to the Headteacher and/or any other Designated Child Protection Officer. The member of staff will let the child know that the information will be passed on and the reasons for their decision.

**How does school manage authorised drugs on school premises?**

Most medication is encouraged to be administered by parents before or after school however if medication is brought into Yorkley Primary school it must have a completed school medication form filled in by the parent/carer of the child. (Use in conjunction with 'supporting pupils at school with medical conditions policy').

**How does school respond to unauthorised drugs use on the premises?**

All situations involving unauthorised drugs will be carefully considered before deciding on the response, although Child Protection procedures always take precedence. The needs of the child will always come first.

Parents/Carers will be involved at an early stage and throughout any investigation.

Support agencies will be involved if appropriate.

Support for pupils will be maintained and counselling arranged if appropriate

**What are the procedures for managing incidents?**

All incidents must be reported to a Senior Leadership Team member who is Child Protection trained and information shared on a need to know basis.

The Head Teacher should always be informed.

**Community Links:**

Working in partnership with parents and carers within the wider school community is an essential part of developing an understanding of the risks associated with drugs. We seek to involve parents and keep them informed if any concerns arise. Parents are encouraged to come into school whenever they have any concerns or anything they would like to discuss with us. We foster links with the wider community through various relationships such as talks with the PCSOs, Drugs Wardens and theatre visits to school.

**Subject review and monitoring**

The PSHCE coordinator and members of the senior leadership team are responsible for monitoring of drugs education.

## **Relevant Agencies:**

**FRANK** is the national drugs awareness campaign aiming to raise awareness amongst young people of the risks of illegal drugs, and to provide 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: 0300 123 6600

Email: [frank@talktofrank.com](mailto:frank@talktofrank.com)

Website: [www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com)

**Mentor UK** is a non-government organisation with a focus on protecting the health and wellbeing of children and young people to reduce the damage that drugs can do to their lives.

Tel: 020 7553 9920

Email [admin@mentoruk.org](mailto:admin@mentoruk.org)

Website: [www.mentoruk.org.uk](http://www.mentoruk.org.uk)

**Family Lives** - A charity offering support and information to anyone parenting a child or teenager. It runs a free-phone helpline and courses for parents, and develops innovative projects.

Tel: 0800 800 2222

Website: [www.familylives.org.uk](http://www.familylives.org.uk)

**Smokefree** - NHS Smoking Helpline: 0800 169 0 169

Website: [www.nhs.uk/smokefree](http://www.nhs.uk/smokefree)

## **Links with other policies;**

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies;

Equal Opportunities

Confidentiality

PSHCE

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Special Educational Needs and Disability

Supporting pupils in school with Medical Conditions

Teaching and Learning

Health and Safety

## **Policy Review**

Compiled by: **K.Burke and L.Williams**

Agreed by Governors: **January 2017**

Date for review: **January 2019**