



## Stanley St Andrew's Church of England Primary School

### Drug Education Policy

As a church school we believe that every person, every child, and every adult is unique and special with God given gifts and talents which is our job to nurture and cherish. We inspire all children to flourish by sharing their individual light during a life of fullness within God's love of all.

#### Introductory Statement

Stanley St Andrew's Church of England Primary School is committed to investing in our pupil's health and well-being, Drug Education is an important issue that is both essential and relevant to children and the skills gained will be used in the real world. The school policy provides a clear expression of our approach to drug education, the management of drug related incidents and support for pupils who have difficulties. It provides a secure framework within which school staff can work. We will ensure a balanced approach and promote healthy lifestyle. This will be delivered within the context of PHSEE/Citizenship and school equality policy.

#### What is Drug education?

For the purpose of this policy and our drugs education programme, drugs are defined as any chemical substance which can affect your body or mind. It includes medicines, legal and illegal substances, solvents, alcohol and tobacco.

Drugs education is part of Personal Social & Health Education.

In developing our policy and programme of study we have taken full account of the –

DfES guidance contained in 'Guidance for schools' (2004)

Quality Standard for Drugs Education

Children and Families Act 2014

Health Act 2006

DfE (2024) 'Keeping children safe in education'

DfE (2018) 'Mental health and behaviour in schools'

Dfe (2012) 'ACPO association of Chief Police officers'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

- PSHE Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Relationships and Health Education Policy

Drug education should provide children with opportunities to acquire knowledge and understanding about drug use and misuse. It should also ensure that they are equipped with the attitudes and skills to make healthy informed choices about drug use and to resist pressure to misuse drugs. However, we recognise that zero-tolerance policies have a disproportionately negative impact on some pupils, e.g. victims of child criminal exploitation (CCE). For this reason, we aim to foster an approach of supportive discipline, whereby pupils who are facing issues with drugs and alcohol are aided through both internal and external support, as well as disciplinary measures where appropriate, to make more healthy and positive choices and to reframe their attitudes towards drugs and alcohol.

Therefore, this policy promotes practices within the school to reinforce our vision, and to remove or discourage practices that are contrary to this vision.

### Knowledge and understanding

- Learning about a safe & healthy lifestyle based on accurate information.
- Learning accurate information about drugs, drug use & drug users.
- Having myths & misunderstandings about drugs, drug use & drug users dispelled.
- Learning about seeking appropriate help & advice.
- Learning about their community and the society of which they are a part in relation to drugs, drug use & drug users.
- Developing pupils' understanding of rules and laws.
- Learning how to make informed choices.

### 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 & diversity.
- Having structured opportunities for the exploration of personal attitudes and values towards drugs, drug use & 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 and with an absence of prejudice.
- Learning to make informed choices and deal with peer pressure.
- Exploring the risks and consequences of their own and others' actions & choices in relation to drugs, drug use & drug users.
- Learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.

- Developing inter-personal skills
- Having opportunities to develop a self-esteem.
- Learning about themselves.
- Learning about playing a positive and active role as citizens.

#### How is Drug education provided?

1. Within the taught, age appropriate, spiral Drugs Education programme within PSHE & Science managed by the Drugs Education Co-Ordinator.
2. Through other curriculum areas delivering aspects (e.g. Drama, English/Literacy etc.)
3. Assemblies
4. Pastoral support for pupils who experience difficulties (see Confidentiality Policy).
5. By the provision of appropriate information through leaflets and books.
6. Delivery in response to incidents.

#### Teaching Methods & Resources

Continuity and progression will be generated through the adoption of a whole school approach, with all children in each year group being taught drugs education through clearly defined learning objectives and activities. Teaching and learning will be set in the context of Personal, Social and Health Education together with the National Curriculum for Science.

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

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

This school supports all teaching and supporting staff in accessing drug related training. Training will be via outside agencies, INSET, staff meetings, parent meetings and governor meetings.

All agencies involved in providing drug education in school will be provided with a copy of this policy.

#### Managing Drug related incidents

Other than the legitimate use of medicines, it is against the school rules for children or adults to bring any other drugs, including cigarettes on to the school site. A drug related incident at this school is likely to concern the inappropriate use of medicine or the use of alcohol or tobacco by children. Sometimes it might involve drug related incidents with parents.

The school believes it is in the best interests of all concerned to inform parents of any reported drug related incidents. The exception would be where the school believes the child would be at serious risk from the parents.

As in all circumstances where a pupil is at risk of abuse or neglect, the Child Protection Procedures will be applied or a referral will be made to Social Services Department for a Child in Need Assessment.

The school will take full account of the circumstances when considering the role and involvement of the Police. However, if illegal drugs are found on the premises the Police will be contacted. Drug related incidents may take forms including

- Inappropriate clothing, e.g. T shirts or jewellery with drug-related logos.
- Drug related Graffiti
- Drugs being brought into school
- Suspicion/rumour or definite evidence of legal/illegal drug use or supply involving pupils.
- Pupils sharing their concerns about their own or family members' use of drugs with a member of staff
- Suspicion or definite evidence of parents/carers experiencing problematic drug use.

### Equal Opportunities

The school's drugs education programme of study 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 Drugs Education depending on their circumstances and background. The school strongly believes that all pupils should have access to Drugs Education that is relevant to their particular needs.

To achieve this, the school's approach to Drugs Education will take account of:

- Ethnic and cultural diversity.
- Varying home backgrounds.
- Special educational needs

The school also recognises the need for extra, targeted work with vulnerable pupils.

### Administration of medicines

Medicines will be administered in school if they are prescription drugs, and a medication form has been completed. In exceptional circumstances, other medication may be administered (for example Calpol, antihistamines etc), but only with prior agreement from the school and with signed parental consent. All inhalers and epi-pens are clearly labelled and are kept in a safe, accessible location in classrooms.

### Personnel

The Drugs Education co-ordinator is Mrs Elizabeth Stanley-Wainwright.

The PSHEE co-ordinator is Mrs Zoe Davies.

The governor responsible for drugs education is Nicky Wood.

### Monitoring and Evaluation

The programme is regularly evaluated by the Drugs Education co-ordinator. Any drug related incidents will be reported to governors in the Headteacher's Report. The views of pupils and teachers who deliver the programme are used to make changes and improvements to the programme on an ongoing basis.

## **Policy Review**

This policy was reviewed and approved for use by the governing body at their meeting on 30 September 2024.

This policy will be reviewed on a three yearly basis by the headteacher in accordance with our schools' policy delegation schedule.

We will review this policy earlier than the scheduled review date should there be any change in guidance or legislation related to this policy or should we feel that an earlier review is necessary. Any changes will be communicated to all stakeholders.