



CONWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Drug Policy

Approved by: Linda Greenlees (Remotely) **Date:** 17th December 2021

Last reviewed on: December 2021

**Next review due
by:** July 2023

Conway School Drug Policy

This policy will be reviewed in two years, or more frequently as the need arises. It links with PSHE, Behaviour, Science, Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy and Health and Safety policies.

Aims

This policy was written to

- Support the welfare of Conway School Community
- To provide a clear framework for the delivery of drug education
- To clarify procedures for responding to drug related incidents
- To have a document that includes both drug education and incident management.

Definition

When this policy refers to the term “drugs” this will mean legal and illegal, socially acceptable and socially unacceptable drugs including medicines, nicotine and alcohol.

Context

The school recognises that we are living in a drug using society in which we need to support young people to make informed decisions. This policy is written in the context of the Governments ten-year strategy “Tackling drugs to build a better Britain”. A key objective of the Government is to reduce the numbers of school exclusions and support social inclusion. This policy is an integral part of the school’s participation in the National Healthy Schools standards which promotes the health and wellbeing of the whole school community.

Copies will be disseminated to all teaching staff once yearly during the Autumn INSET

The School PSHE coordinators role incorporate the role of the school Drug Education Coordinator. Duties include:

- Co-ordinating the programme throughout the school
- Liaising with external agencies

The designated person in this school who responsibility for coordinating the response to drugs related incidents is Linda Greenlees

The lead governor with responsibilities in this area is Vanita Howells

Drug Education

Drug education is part of PSHE and a planned part of the curriculum. It aims to:

- Enable children to increase their knowledge
- Develop communication, assertiveness, problems solving and decision making skills
- Explore their own and others societies, cultures, feelings, values and attitudes towards drugs.

Our drug education curriculum follows the statutory orders from the National Curriculum Science and the guidelines from the National Framework for PHSE and citizenship as well as the National Healthy School Standard.

Following these aims we avoid sensationalising drug use, instilling fear through alarmist approaches and/or judgemental responses.

Visitors and external agencies

When visitors or external agencies are employed to contribute to our programme, we ensure that they understand and share out ethos and approach to drug education. We liaise closely in the preparation, delivery evaluation and feedback of the material. However, at all times the Class teacher maintains responsibility for the curriculum and classroom management.

Drug Education programme

The drugs education programme will be delivered through the statutory science curriculum, PSHE and Citizenship, circle time, the Police & the School Liaison Programme, other outside agencies and drama workshops.

Responding to drug related incidents

Incidents which could potentially occur in school are:

- Finding drugs or drug equipment on school premises
- A pupil disclosing that a relation/friend is using or selling drugs
- An adult coming onto the premises under the influence of drugs
- A parent seeking advice from school about drug use
- Children bringing in prescription medicines for treatment during the school day.

We recognise the need for a flexible approach as in each situation, individual circumstances may come into play.

Police involvement

Police should be involved in any incident involving the sale or use of illegal drugs, although there is no legal obligation to give a pupil's name. The Head Teacher will make the decision on the need to involve the police. Incidents where a parent/carer is behaving under the influence of drugs or alcohol on school premises will be judged on the circumstances and the Head Teacher or Designated Safeguarding Lead will make a decision as to whether the police should be called.

Responses

Drug situations – medical emergencies,
The procedures for an emergency apply when a person is at immediate risk of harm. A person who is unconscious, having trouble breathing, seriously confused or disoriented or who has taken a harmful toxic substance, will be responded to as an emergency. First Aid procedures will immediately be put into practice.

All incidents will be recorded on our record form and used for monitoring and review of our policy

In the event of any of the above incidents happening in school, we will follow the Greenwich guidelines which outline procedures for confiscating, searching, storage and disposal

Legal and Prescribed drugs

Any legal and prescribed drug brought on to school premises must be taken to the office and locked in the safe. Clear instructions for administering the medicine must be written down and parental consent given in writing for a nominated member of staff to administer the dose.

School rules relating to drugs should be made clear to pupils and a copy made accessible for view.

The Needs of Pupils

The needs of pupils Class teachers and others involved in the care of children (e.g. Nursery Nurses, LSA's etc) should be aware of the pastoral needs of children affected by drug-related issues. Concerns should be raised with the Head Teacher, Responsible Teacher, and SENCo, and appropriate support structures activated. (See section on confidentiality).

Confidentiality

Teachers and staff cannot and should not promise total confidentiality in drug related issues. This should be made clear to pupils. However, requests for confidentiality should be honoured unless this is not possible in relation to:

- Child protection
- Co-operating with a police investigation
- Referring to an external agency.

Every effort should be made to secure a pupil's agreement to the way in which the school intends to use any sensitive information: it should only be in exceptional circumstances that sensitive information is passed on against a pupil's wishes, where possible the school should inform the pupil first and explain why this needs

Resources, Local and National Organisations

For a comprehensive list of organisations that can be assessed for help and advice please see below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/drug-addiction-getting-help/>

<https://www.drugwise.org.uk/does-drug-education-stop-drug-use/>

<https://lifeskillseducation.co.uk/>

https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/info/200277/health_and_wellbeing/973/drug_or_alcohol_addiction

<https://www.greenwichcommunitydirectory.org.uk/kb5/greenwich/directory/service.page?id=bzVpY5UwcCs>

<https://www.slam.nhs.uk/our-services/service-finder-details?CODE=SU0409>

This school policy covers all situations where pupils are deemed to be in school care and control e.g. school trips and school journeys.

December 2021 – Linda Greenlees & Keith Robertson