



DRUGS POLICY FORMED IN COLLABORATION WITH RIDGE JUNIOR SCHOOL

To be read in conjunction with all other Broadway Infant School policies plus:-
Equality and Community Cohesion Scheme & Accessibility Scheme

Definition of a Drug

A drug is a substance which, when taken into the body, changes the way we perceive things and the way the body works.

This policy covers a range of drugs including medicines, tobacco, alcohol, solvents and illegal drugs

Rationale

Current research indicates that the use of drugs, both legal and illegal, is prevalent in the lives of young people. As part of the school's care and welfare of its pupils, we believe we have a duty to inform and educate them about drug use. Schools share responsibility with parents and the community to educate pupils about the consequences of drug use and misuse and to encourage them to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and practising skills.

We also believe that the misuse of any drugs by members of the school community cannot be condoned and will be dealt with consistently and clearly with regard to the needs of the school and the individuals concerned. Fundamental to the school's values and practice is the principle of sharing the responsibility for the education of young people with parents, keeping them informed and involved at all times. Effective communication and co-operation is essential to the successful implementation of this policy.

Broadway Infant School and Ridge Junior School are committed to the health and safety of everyone in our community and we will work together to enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices and discourage the misuse of drugs.

Purposes

- To develop a whole school approach to drug education in the context of the curriculum of the school, both formal and informal, with particular reference to Science and PSHE & Citizenship and as part of our Healthy Schools Work
- To provide accurate information about a range of drugs, including medicines, alcohol
- and tobacco
- To explore attitudes and develop skills in making decisions about drugs
- To have a clear and agreed understanding among everyone in the school community about the implications and possible consequences of drug use / misuse
- To establish an atmosphere / environment / situation in which the school is free from the misuse of any drugs
- To clarify appropriate procedures in the management of drug related incidents
- To respond to any individual in the school community in need of support

Guidelines

Pupils at Broadway Infant School will follow an integrated drug education programme which is responsive to needs and relevant to the pupil's young age, experience and maturity. It will be delivered through the school curriculum, largely during Science, PSHE & Citizenship. It will focus mainly on the development of knowledge, skills and attitudes towards assessing the safe and responsible use of drugs such as medicines and also assessment of risks surrounding the misuse of drugs such as tobacco and alcohol. Lessons will support the development of self esteem and decision making skills.

Senior staff and governors will always check for any changes in legislation or local requirements before applying this policy.



We will share responsibility for the education of pupils with parents, who will be kept informed and involved when appropriate through newsletters, awareness raising evenings and individual discussions when appropriate.

Management of drug-related incidents

The Head is responsible for co-ordinating the management of drug-related incidents.

Support for dealing with incidents will be sought from outside agencies as appropriate.

Procedures

Whilst it is unlikely that the pupils who attend our schools will come into contact with any illegal drugs, we all recognise that situations may arise when legal drugs become part of their experience and we have a responsibility to ensure all stakeholders understand how we will respond to any drug related incident/event. As children grow up their experiences widen and so Broadway Infants and Ridge Junior School have agreed common procedures that address the management of any drug related incident.

1.1. It is the policy of Broadway Infant School and Ridge Junior School, that no child should bring any drug, legal or illegal, to school. Any medication that a pupil may require must be brought into school by a parent, carer or guardian. The school has a policy / procedure for the administration of medicines that must be followed for everyone's safety.

1.2. The school will take very seriously misuse of any substances such as glue, other solvents, or alcohol. The parents or guardians of any child involved will always be notified. Any child who deliberately brings substances into school for the purpose of misuse may be punished by a fixed-term or permanent exclusion depending on the circumstances, and the police and social services will be informed. If the offence is repeated, the child will be (if they were not previously) permanently excluded, and the police and social services will be informed.

1.3. If any child is found to be suffering from the effects of alcohol or other substances, arrangements will be made for that child to be taken home and a referral will be made to Social Services.

1.4. It is forbidden for anyone, adult (A member of the public or staff) or child, to bring onto the school premises illegal drugs. Any child who is found to have brought to school any type of illegal substance may be punished by a fixed-term or permanent exclusion depending on the circumstances, and the police and social services will be informed. If the offence is repeated, the child will be (if they were not previously) permanently excluded, and the police and social services will be informed. If an adult is found bringing illegal drugs onto the premises the school will immediately report this to the police and South Gloucestershire LEA. They will then instigate procedures which in the case of a parent/carer may result in the person being banned from the school premises. In the case of a member of staff the governors will follow the advice and procedures as set out by South Gloucestershire LEA and the police.

1.5. If a child is found to have deliberately brought illegal substances into school, and is found to be distributing these to other pupils, the child will be permanently excluded from the school. The police and social services will also be informed.

The school works with the Local Authority to provide relevant information and coordinated support.

The whole school is designated a no-smoking area

Advice and Support

Where appropriate, pupils will be offered support by the LEA Drugs Adviser / Social Services or the police.

Conclusion

Senior staff and governors will always check for any changes in legislation or local requirements before applying this policy.



The welfare of our pupils and staff is of paramount concern and we will work together with everyone involved with the school to ensure the continued education and well being of all of our children.

Signed.....A Lawrance.....
Chair of Governors

Date.....20-3-2015.....

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