



# Garrick Green Infant School

## Drugs and Alcohol and Substance Misuse Policy

Approved by Governors: November 2015

Signed: J. Tipple

Review date: November 2018

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## Drug/Alcohol Prevention and Substance Misuse Policy

### Statement

The Governing Body of all maintained schools should have an up-to-date written Drug/Alcohol Prevention and Substance Misuse Policy, which is available for inspection, particularly by Parents. The aim of this document is to prepare all those working within our school, in matters to do with substance related incidents.

This policy will:

- Define what is meant by drugs and substance misuse.
- Describe how Drugs and Alcohol Education is provided and who is responsible for providing it
- Describe the involvement of health professionals and external organisations.
- Say how Drugs and Alcohol Education will be monitored and evaluated
- Be reviewed regularly

**By drugs we mean any substance which is inhaled, swallowed or injected to alter the physical or psychological condition of the user. This includes alcohol, solvents, prescribed and over the counter medicines as well as illegal substances.**

### The Purpose and Aims of Drugs/Alcohol Education in school

The purpose of Drug and Alcohol Education is to help and support pupils through their physical, emotional, moral and spiritual development. Effective Drug and Alcohol Education is also essential if children and young people are to make responsible and well informed decisions about their lives.

A successful programme will help pupils learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood.

The school acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the development of a drug and alcohol policy, and will strive to provide a framework for awareness and prevention within the curriculum and through the general ethos of the school, believing that Health Education is a vital part of the Personal and Social Education of every pupil.

Effective communication and co-operation is essential to the successful implementation of this policy. By educating our children from an early age they will be in a position to make responsible choices for themselves before exposure and experimentation become likely.

Drug and Alcohol Education in Garrick Green Infant School is about:

- developing a whole school approach which is both realistic and practical and has young people's welfare as the central focus
- giving pupils accurate and sensitively delivered information about substances, why people use them, the law, the effects and risk involved.
- enabling pupils to develop an increasing awareness of right and wrong behaviours, empowering children to take increasing responsibility for themselves and their actions
- ensuring that the pupils of this school receive a programme of education about alcohol and other drugs, suited to their age and needs and which equips them to stay safe despite the dangers and temptations they may encounter
- ensuring that all staff, pupils and parents know how to deal with incidents of misuse involving our school community.

### Teaching of Drugs and Alcohol Education at Garrick Green Infant School

The school will deliver these aims in the taught curriculum mainly through integration within a wider programme of Personal, Social and Health Education, and through a range of cross curricular topics. This allows the possibility of developing a spiral programme in each year which takes account of progression, continuity and the developing needs of the children.

### Early Years Foundation Stage

<b>Skills</b>	<b>Children should be given the opportunities to</b>
<b>Personal, social and emotional development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a positive sense of themselves and others</li> <li>• Develop positive relationships and develop respect for others</li> <li>• Understand appropriate behaviour in groups</li> <li>• Develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings</li> </ul>
<b>Communication and language</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves</li> </ul>
<b>Physical development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make healthy choices</li> </ul>
<b>Understanding the world</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sense of their physical world and their community</li> </ul>

## Key Stage One

<b>Skills</b>	<b>Children should be given the opportunities to</b>
<b>Personal, Social and Health Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop confidence and responsibility and making the most of their abilities</li><li>• Prepare to play an active role as citizens</li><li>• Develop a healthy, safer lifestyle</li><li>• Develop good relationships and respect differences between people</li></ul>
<b>Science</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learn about the role of drugs as medicines</li></ul>
<b>P.E</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop their understanding of fitness and health</li></ul>
<b>English</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Speak clearly, fluently and confidently to different people</li><li>• Listen, understand and respond to others</li><li>• Join in as members of a group, taking different views into account, giving reasons for their opinions and actions and extending their ideas in light of discussion</li></ul>

Effective provision needs careful planning across all areas of learning to ensure that children have the opportunities to develop their skills as active thinkers, learners and decision makers, and to interact with others - learning to help, share, co-operate, describe, identify and solve problems.

Drug, Alcohol and Substance misuse will be provided through

- Stories/Role play
- Cross curricular topic work
- Lessons presented in conjunction with outside agencies (e.g. the school nurse)
- Group work
- Discussion time
- Using audio-visual triggers and discussion

### Answering questions

- Staff will attempt to answer the children's' general questions honestly giving consideration to the age and maturity of the child.
- If a child asks a question about values the teacher will deal with this at an age appropriate level but will try to avoid giving their own personal view.

- If staff feel they are unable to answer any questions in a manner suitable to the age of the child they will encourage the child to discuss the matter with their parents or will seek support from relevant professional bodies.

### Good Practice

The school will ensure that any professional agencies and contributors from the School Community are aware of the school policy and agree to abide by it.

The School Staff will discuss any contributions before outside agencies make their presentations to ensure that they are appropriate and coincide with the ethos of the school.

Confidentiality - visitors should be made aware of the boundaries to confidentiality (See below)

### Confidentiality

Teachers cannot offer confidentiality unconditionally if children disclose information or if teachers believe that the children are at risk as a consequence of drug/alcohol related incidents. They must follow the safeguarding procedures as laid out in the document 'Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults Working With Children and Young People in Education Settings' (staff room shelf Safeguarding Master File).

### Procedures Regarding Substances in School

Where adults need to use medicinal drugs on the school premises it is their responsibility to ensure it is securely stored. We regard any use of drugs or alcohol by pupils on school premises or in an event organised by this school as inappropriate. The only exception to this would be medicinal use approved and agreed by either a doctor or a parent and notified to the school beforehand. A form must be completed and signed by the parent and will be kept by the school.

See Administering of Medicines policy

### Hazardous chemicals or substances

No hazardous substance should be kept within the reach of any child. Arrangements for the secure and safe storage of chemicals e.g. for cleaning are set out in the school Health and Safety Policy.

## Responding to incidents of inappropriate use of drugs/alcohol

### Dealing with an incident:

It is important that staff behave in a corporate manner, sharing concerns rather than acting independently. Teachers have a wide range of observational skills used in monitoring pupils' and adults' behaviour. Always, if a problem occurs, the Headteacher should be informed.

Aims and objectives:

- To safeguard the school community from the adverse effects of misuse of drugs and alcohol.
- To ensure as far as possible the long and short term safety of any individual pupils involved with misuse of drugs and alcohol.

### Dealing with incidents involving adults:

The school is not able to release pupils into the care of other adults where there is a possibility of harm to that pupil. Where there is evidence that parents or carers arriving at school to collect children are under the influence of drugs or alcohol, either social services or the police will be contacted in line with the Safeguarding policy.

Where any member of the school community, staff, parent or visitor is or appears to be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs on the school premises, they will be asked to leave immediately and action taken to ensure their safety, with supervision if necessary. Where illegal substances are involved, the police will be informed.

Any further action by the school will depend on the situation and the personnel involved. Incidents of this nature involving school staff should be dealt with according to the LEA disciplinary procedure.

### Incidents on the school premises not involving school personnel:

From time to time other people may use the premises when drugs or alcohol may be used or consumed, without the consent of the head teacher or governing body (for instance, young people on the field). Where this happens it is school policy **to inform the police** and take steps to ensure pupils' safety. This will involve collection from the grounds of anything left behind such as broken bottles, needles and syringes, following Health & Safety guidelines. Should such an incident arise, pupils would be given clear instructions as to what to do i.e. they will be told not to touch anything but to fetch a member of staff.

### Dealing with suspicion of drug use.

When a member of staff has a concern for a pupil/adult's behaviour a specific non-judgemental factual record, such as would be acceptable in a Court of Law, should be made giving an over-view of the behaviour.

The Headteacher will notify the Chair of Governors with regard to any substance-related incident in advance of information being generally known.

### Monitoring

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation, for liaison with the Governing Body, Parents, LA and appropriate outside agencies. All members of the school community will be encouraged to work together to put this policy into practice. This Policy will be available on the website. Staff will be supported, have access to up-to-date resources and be given training opportunities. The Governing Body will be involved in Substance Education and substance related incidents in the same manner as any other matter concerning the direction of the school.

Outside agencies will also be asked to support the work of the school and to work co-operatively with it.

At all times the school will follow the LA policy on Substance misuse as part of its Health and Safety Policy.

### Review

This policy will be reviewed in line with the School Policy Review timetable.