

St. Michael's CofE Drugs Education Policy

Document Summary

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On School Website?	Yes

FYI: Version control should be used for all formal documents and managed as:-

- 0.1 (1st draft version)
- 0.2 (2nd draft and so on..... 0.3. 0.4 etc)
- 1.0 (Once document has been approved)
- 1.2 (during review/approval of a lifecycle document i.e. policies)
- 2.0 (2nd approved document) and so on.

Amendment History

Version	Amendment Date	Author	Amendment Summary
1.1	040324	Jo Prendergast	Policy approved at Foundation Govs

What is a drug?

A drug is a substance which, when taken into the body, can change the way we feel, the way we see things and / or the way our body works. Drugs include medicines, tobacco, alcohol, solvents, vapes and illegal drugs.

Rationale

St Michael's school is committed to the welfare of all its pupils and staff. As part of the school's care and welfare of its pupils, we recognise we have a duty to work together with parents and the wider community to educate children about drug use and misuse.

Aims

We are committed to: -

- developing a whole school approach to drug education so that there is a clear and agreed understanding among everyone in the school community about the implications and possible consequences of drug use or misuse (*appendix 1*)
- ensuring appropriate procedures are in place for the management of drug-related incidents
- increasing knowledge about medicines, tobacco, alcohol, solvents and illegal drugs

Guidelines

1. There is a procedure for the management of drug-related incidents, agreed by staff and Governors, of which parents and pupils will be made aware (*appendix 2*)
2. All pupils (at both Key Stages) will follow an integrated drug education programme delivered primarily through the Science and PSHE curricula. Importantly, this will include the issues related to self-esteem and decision-making skills.
3. The school actively co-operates with other agencies such as the PCSOs, School Nurse, Social Services, LA and health and drug agencies.
4. It is the role of the Teacher to:
 - Deliver drug education in appropriate areas of the curriculum
 - Gain an understanding of the children's present knowledge through discussion
 - Be ready to listen to any child who may wish to disclose information and to pass this on to the Head Teacher should this be of concern.
5. It is the role of the Head Teacher (or, in his/her absence the deputy or other designated person) to: -
 - Take overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation, and for liaising with the Governing Body, parents, LA and appropriate outside agencies including the media.
 - Ensure that all staff are adequately supported and trained to be able to respond appropriately to situations with consistency and sensitivity.
 - Inform parents at the earliest opportunity, after discussion with the staff, should there be an instance involving substance misuse or supply. Where the incident is considered to be serious enough, then the LA and the Police Liaison Officer and Governors will be informed.
 - Ensure that the LA Authority policy on drug and alcohol misuse is followed regarding the welfare of staff.

Sanctions

Sanctions of appropriate severity will be applied to the intentional misuse of the substances described above by any member of the school community on the school premises or while on school trips and visits.

Monitoring and Review

This policy is monitored by the PHSE coordinator

Review date: March 2027

Appendix 1.

St Michael's School policy guidelines on specific categories of drugs

Medicines	See policy on administration of medicines
Tobacco	The whole school is designated a No Smoking area.
Vapes	The whole school is designated a No Vaping area.
Alcohol	No alcohol will normally be brought onto the premises or consumed on the premises during the course of a school day. To mark occasional special events alcohol may be brought onto the premises and consumed, but only with the specific prior permission of the Head Teacher, or his deputy in the absence of the Head. In any event during school hours, alcohol shall not be consumed in such quantities as to impair the efficiency of the person's work.
Solvents	The school will ensure that potentially harmful substances are stored safely, and pupils supervised carefully in the event of them having to be used in the course of their work.
New psychoactive Substances	No psychoactive substances should be brought to school or used on school premises.
Illegal Substances	No illegal or illicit substances should be brought to school or used on school premises.

Where a drug related incident occurs all staff will be expected to have familiarised themselves and to implement the procedures in the management of drug related incidents (*Appendix 2*).

Appendix 2. St Michael's School procedures in the management of drug related incidents

Event	Legal position	Initial action	Later actions	Contacts
1. Substance or drug taking paraphernalia discovered on school premises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is against the law knowingly to allow premises to be used for production, consumption or dealing in some substances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confiscate substance and store safely with witness Record details – what, when, who, where Inform Head Teacher Seek advice from Police about analysis or disposal (do not taste anything) Disposal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decide if there is a security issue Decide if there is a community or welfare issue Decide if, when & how staff/pupils and parents/carers are to be informed 	Police Drugs Education Officer or Community Police Officer LA Education Welfare Officer (EWO) South Gloucestershire Press Office (01454 863890)
2. A pupil is found supplying or in possession of a substance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools have responsibilities <i>in loco parentis</i> Follow Child Protection guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confiscate substance and store safely with witness Record details – what, when, who, where Inform Head Teacher Seek advice from Police about analysis or disposal (do not taste anything) Disposal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess extent of the problem of substance misuse Decide if there is a pupil/family welfare issue or whether dealing is taking place Decide whether pupil(s) are deemed at significant risk (if so follow Child Protection procedures) Decide what sanctions (if any) are to be imposed Decide whether the Police should be informed Decide if, when & how staff/pupils and parents/carers are to be informed 	EWO School Nurse Assistant Education Officer (Schools & Community or SEN Police (DEO or CPO) Social Services – Child Protection Pupil referral service / learning support service Voluntary groups
3. A member of staff suspects or has evidence of a pupil being under the influence of a substance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools have responsibilities <i>in loco parentis</i> Follow Child Protection guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow first aid procedure if necessary Inform Head Teacher Attempt to identify source and take appropriate action as in 1 & 2 above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider actions as in 2 above 	Contacts as above In health emergency dial 999. Social Services ART 01454 866000
4. A pupil discloses that parents, carers, relatives or friends are misusing or selling substances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools have responsibilities <i>in loco parentis</i> Follow Child Protection guidelines – there is no legal obligation to inform anyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform Head Teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider actions as in 2 above 	LA EWO School Nurse Voluntary agencies ART 01454 866000
5. A pupil discloses that they are using substances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools have responsibilities <i>in loco parentis</i> Follow Child Protection guidelines – there is no legal obligation to inform anyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss disclosure and appropriate action with Head Teacher Considerations as in 2 above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decide what risk is involved & to whom Consider need for support from an outside agency (eg. Social Services, voluntary agency) for those involved Decide if, when and how parents/carers or any staff/pupils are to be informed 	EWO School Nurse Voluntary agencies ART 01454 866000
6. School becomes aware of availability or sale of substances in school vicinity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No legal obligation to inform anyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform Head Teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decide whether to inform or seek advice from Police and / or local Trading Standards Officer Consider school rules regarding leaving school premises during school hours/lunchtimes Decide if, when and how parents/carers or any staff/pupils are to be informed 	EWO School Nurse Community Police Officer Youth service Trading Standards Officer
7. A parent/carer approaches school about their child who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No legal obligation to inform anyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify cause for concern Offer appropriate support Inform Head Teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise parent to consider referral to voluntary or health agency 	National Drugs helpline (0800776600) Voluntary agencies Young People's counselling service

is or may be using substances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If information is about use on the school premises, school may not be able to allow that action to continue 			G.P.
8. School becomes aware that member of staff is using substances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No legal obligation to inform anyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss with Head Teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggest referral to appropriate agency Consider competence / disciplinary procedures 	Occupational Health Education Personnel Manager (01454 863212)

For further information on school powers regarding searching, screening & confiscation please see the following document (Jan 2018)

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/674416/Searching screening and confiscation .pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/674416/Searching_screening_and_confiscation.pdf)

In brief:

- School staff can search a pupil for any item if the pupil agrees. (The ability to give consent may be influenced by the child's age or other factors)
- Headteachers and staff authorised by them have a statutory power to search pupils or their possessions, without consent, where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil may have a prohibited item. Prohibited items are:
 - knives and weapons
 - alcohol
 - illegal drugs
 - stolen items
 - tobacco and cigarette papers
 - fireworks
 - pornographic images
 - any article that the member of staff reasonably suspects has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or to cause personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil).
- Headteachers and authorised staff can also search for any item banned by the school

Confiscation

School staff can seize any prohibited item found as a result of a search. They can also seize any item, however found, which they consider harmful or detrimental to school discipline.

There are strict rules regarding the extent and nature of searches: see above guidance. Searches and confiscation should only be carried out with the authorisation of the Headteacher.