

SHELTON INFANT SCHOOL

DRUG EDUCATION/DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS POLICY

This policy covers all the substances as given below:

- Volatile substances, eg petrol, aerosols, butane, alkyl nitrates
- Medicines which may be bought over the counter eg paracetamol and cough medicines
- Prescription medications eg tranquillisers, anabolic steroids and amphetamines
- Legal drugs, eg. tobacco, alcohol.
- Illegal drugs eg heroin, ecstasy, and LSD

The school is firmly opposed to the misuse of drugs by all stakeholders (staff, parents, pupils, governors, visitors) and does not accept the misuse of drugs on its premises/property. The health, safety and well being of the school community is paramount and the school aims to provide a caring and mutually respectful environment for all.

Why teach drug education?

The purpose of a drug education programme is to provide opportunities for children to acquire knowledge, understanding and skills that will enable them to consider the effects of drugs and other substances on themselves and others. We recognise that misuse, either by themselves or by adults around them, can have a profound effect on the health, well-being and academic achievement of our children.

We acknowledge the importance of our pastoral role in the welfare of our pupils and will encourage them to seek support when needed.

We provide a comprehensive, age appropriate drug education programme, which forms part of the Relationship and Health Education of every pupil and the Science National Curriculum. Unlike sex and relationship education parents/carers do not have a statutory right to withdraw their children from a drug education programme.

In Key Stage One pupils are taught:

Knowledge and understanding

- School rules relating to medicines
- Basic information about how the body works and ways of looking after the body
- The role of medicines (both prescribed and over the counter) in promoting health and the reasons for people using them
- Understanding that all drugs can be harmful if not used properly
- Simple safety rules about medicine and other substances used in the home, including solvents
- Consideration of alcohol and tobacco, their general effects on the body and on behaviour
- People who are involved with medicines (such as health professionals, pharmacists, shopkeepers)
- People who can help children when they have concerns.

Skills

- Communicating feelings such as concerns about illness and taking medicine
- Following simple safety rules and instructions
- When and how to get help from adults

Attitudes

Shelton Infant School Governing Body reviewed January 2026

- Valuing one's body and recognising its uniqueness
- Attitudes towards medicine, health professionals and hospitals
- Attitudes towards the use of alcohol and cigarettes

Within the Early Years Foundation Stage children will have the opportunity to discuss how medicines help us to stay healthy as well as things like visits to the doctor or hospital. Simple rules associated with medicines may be discussed highlighting the importance of "safe" adults giving medicines to children. School rules relating to medicines will be explored. Potentially hazardous substances found at home, e.g. bleach or cleaning products may be identified along with the importance of not touching or consuming these. Children will be encouraged to make informed choices.

All aspects of drug education will be relevant to the levels of understanding of the children and linked to work on safety, relationships and communication.

Procedures for dealing with a drug related incident

Where an incident occurs, the member of staff involved should:

- Make the situation safe
- Send for support from the head teacher or member of the Senior Leadership Team
- If necessary, send for a member of staff with First Aid qualification.
- Ensure that if an illegal drug is found, it is secured in a safe place until it can be dealt with. This procedure would also apply to syringes or needles found on school grounds.
- Record the incident which should be reported to the police and logged in an incident book kept by the head teacher who will then report the incident to the governing body. Records will include how the discovery was made, names of any persons or children involved and the date and time of the incident along with, where relevant, the Police Incident number.

The school, including its grounds, is regularly checked for signs of drug misuse. This is the responsibility of the Caretaker.

Where appropriate, we liaise with outside agencies in relation to drugs education and incidents. The school will contact the Police for assistance and specialist support as and if it feels this is necessary.

Our Safeguarding Policy will be followed if we believe a child is at risk in relation to drugs. Adults in school will act upon their duty of care by reporting to a Designated Safeguarding Lead if it is believed that a pupil is a risk of harm due to their involvement with drugs or drugs related incidents.

Training for school staff will be undertaken where needs are identified.

All drug related incidents in school are recorded and kept in a folder in the Headteacher's office.

