



Signed.....

Date October 2021

Review September 2023

Woodford Valley CE Primary Academy Drug Education Policy

This school is committed to creating the ethos in which children can grow towards Christian life, learning and love.

And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples."

John 13 34-35

This policy has been developed in line with Drugs Advice for Schools DfE 2012 and Drug Strategy 2010. This policy should be read in conjunction with all school policies and in particular: Safeguarding and Child Protection, Behaviour Policy, Health and Safety, Medicine, P.S.H.E./RSHE R.E, and Teaching and Learning Policies.

We seek to provide a secure, happy and safe environment for children, staff and visitors at Woodford Valley Academy and, to achieve this, we have a whole school approach to drug education awareness. We are determined to ensure that our children stay healthy and safe.

Purpose of the policy

- To support the school's endeavour to maintain the safety and well-being of all pupils, staff and visitors
- To develop a graduated whole school approach to drug education in the context of the school curriculum

Aims and objectives of drug education:

Drug education within our school aims to ensure that pupils:

- ◆ value both themselves and others
- ◆ make informed choices and behave responsibly
- ◆ are able to express and share concerns
- ◆ know and understand the benefits of a healthy lifestyle
- ◆ are aware of safety issues



- ◆ are aware of the effects, risks and consequences of illegal and legal drugs and substances
- ◆ know that medicines can be harmful if not used as prescribed

Definition of drugs

A drug is a substance, which, when taken into the body, can change the way we feel, the way we perceive things and the way our body works. This includes illegal substances such as illegal drugs, new psychoactive substances and other unauthorised substances, and also legal substances such as medicines, volatile substances, alcohol, tobacco and solvents.

Drug education

Drug education forms part of the Personal, Social, Health and Safety education curriculum in our school informed by SCARF, a comprehensive scheme of work. The curriculum aims to increase pupils' knowledge and understanding of drugs. Our aim is to help pupils to make healthy and informed choices. We use a range of teaching and learning styles to suit the needs of our children as regards their age, ability and level of maturity. We encourage children to consider related social and moral issues that can occur in everyday life through R.S.H.E, P4C, and R.E. We value the assistance of outside agencies to support the curriculum, such as the Local Health Authority, School Nurse, School Counsellor, Community Police, Junior Good Citizen and the Life Education Van.

The school recognises the importance of providing staff with the appropriate training, to deliver the school's drug education programme effectively. Training opportunities are provided by Wiltshire LA.

Key roles and responsibilities

The Head Teacher, link Governor and the PSHE Coordinator are the staff responsible for drug related issues.

Medicine

The school has a procedure for the safe administration of medicines following national guidelines- see Medicines Policy. Medicines are to be given to the School Administrator complete with instructions for administration. Children with special medical needs, such as severe allergies, epilepsy or haemophilia, have individual care plans.

Tobacco

We provide a smoke free environment. Smoking is not permitted within the school buildings or grounds. Parents and visitors under the effects of alcohol will be asked to leave the premises and return at a later date for the safety of the whole



school. Hazardous products, such as cleaning products or solvents, are stored safely in line with regulated health and safety guidelines.

Alcohol

No alcohol will be consumed during the course of a normal school day. Prizes containing alcohol cannot be won by people known to be under 18 years of age.

Solvents

The school will ensure that potentially hazardous substances are stored safely, and pupils will be supervised if it is necessary that they come into contact with them in the course of their work. Pupils are not permitted to be in possession of solvent based products.

Illegal drugs

No illegal drugs are permitted to be brought on to, or used on, school premises.

Drug related incidents

A drug related incident may include any of the following:

- Finding drugs, or related paraphernalia on school premises
- Possession of drugs by an individual on school premises
- Use of drugs by an individual on school premises
- Supply of drugs on school premises
- Individuals disclosing information about their drug use
- Rumours of drug possession, supply or drug use
- Reports of drug possession, supply or drug use

The school's first responsibility is for the health and safety of the school community. Any drug related incidents will be reported to the Head Teacher. The school is aware of its legal responsibilities as regards drug related incidents. We seek to work in line with national and local guidance as outlined in Wiltshire LA Young People and Drugs Guidelines for Schools.

Confidentiality

Our major concern is the health and safety of our children. The school will endeavour to treat incidents with confidentiality. The Head Teacher will deal with any drug related incidents and may need to consult with the police and/or health care professionals in the interests of the child or the whole school community, following our child protection procedures.

CONSIDERATION SHOULD ALSO BE GIVEN TO WHETHER THE FAMILY WILL NEED TO TRAVEL DURING THE ABSENCE. IF THE parent requests longer time than would appear reasonable the extra time could be classified as 'holiday'.

In some cultures specific religious occasions are very important (for example a child's first communion) and the family may want to return to their country of origin to celebrate this with family. Consideration should be given as to whether or not the absence is authorised due to 'special circumstances' and whether there is a 'holiday' aspect.

Medical treatment abroad (authorised code M, unauthorised code O)

Some families return to their country of origin for medical or dental treatment for a number of reasons. In most cases doctors will provide a letter stating that a child has an appointment or is undergoing medical treatment. Consideration should be given to how long it would be reasonable to allow for travel and any time requested that is in excess of this could be classified as 'holiday'.

