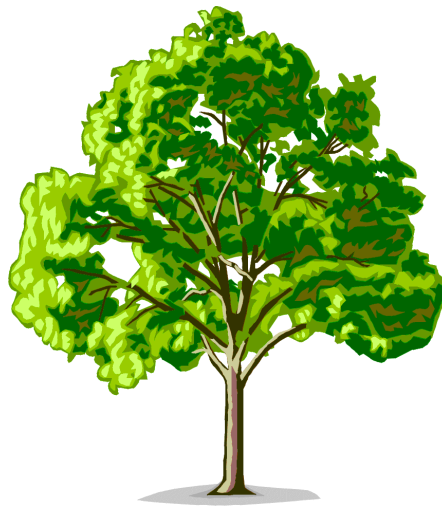


Park Hill Primary School

Drugs Education Policy

2021



Responsible for Policy	Headteacher
Policy Written by	Paul Griffin
Date of Policy	October 2021
Date Ratified by Governors	October 2021
Date of Policy Review	October 2025

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Park Hill Primary School

Drug Education Policy

For the purpose of this document the term 'Drug Education' refers to our provision for 'Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education' (DATE)

The word 'drug' throughout this document refers to all drugs including medicines, volatile substances, alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs. We recognise the importance of exploring the beneficial use of drugs as medicines as well as the harmful effects of drug misuse.

DATE is embedded in the PSHE curriculum and aims to help children develop:

- Self-esteem and self-awareness.
- An understanding of their own and other's rights.
- The ability and confidence to make informed choices.
- The ability to keep themselves and other people safe by minimising risk from harm.
- An understanding of their own and others' attitudes, values and beliefs and an individual moral framework that will help them to make positive decisions.
- Being sensitive to the different messages they receive from the media.
- The ability to access help and support.
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Park Hill believes that the essential aim of drug education should be to give pupils the facts (appropriate to their age and level of understanding), to emphasise the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and give young people the knowledge and skills to make informed and responsible choices now and in later life.

We recognise the increasing 'drug' use in society. The acquisition of knowledge, understanding and skills which enable young people to consider the effects of drugs on themselves and others is, therefore, of vital importance.

Our Policy takes into account the following guidance from central government;

- Drugs – Guidance for Schools (February 2004) – Department for Education
- Drug Advice for Schools (September 2012) – Department for Education and Association of Chief Police Officers.
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Park Hill Primary School aims to provide children with :

- a moral framework that will guide their decisions and behaviours
- an understanding of their own bodies
- the confidence and know-how to seek help and advice
- self-esteem, self-awareness and emotional health advice
- an awareness of the right they have over their own body
- the skills to be assertive
- good communication skills
- the skills and knowledge to make positive informed choices
- the ability to respect the right of others to hold opinions that differ from their own as long as these views do not impact on the rights of others

- the ability to take responsibility for and accept the consequences of their own actions
- the knowledge to reduce the risks to their own and the health of others.

Our Curriculum

Our Primary school curriculum for Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education includes the following key learning opportunities for pupils:

- to be able to identify hazardous substances
- to consider safety rules at home and at school
- to know the effects of drugs, alcohol and tobacco on the body
- to explore a range of legal and illegal drugs, their risks and effects
- considering media messages
- developing a positive body image
- how to find help and support
- developing emotional literacy
- peer influence and peer pressure
- considering rights and responsibilities
- raising self-esteem and increasing self-awareness
- challenging assumptions, stereotyping and prejudice
- communication skills – saying ‘no’ and being assertive, dealing with conflict,
- negotiation, appreciation

Resources are carefully selected to deliver these objectives.

Organisation

DATE is embedded in the PSHE and Science curriculum for all year groups. It is delivered predominantly by the pupils’ class teacher however, appropriate and suitably experienced visitors from outside school may occasionally be invited to contribute to the delivery.

The DATE programme will be monitored and evaluated through

- Questionnaires
- Discussions
- Pupils’ self-assessment and evaluations
- Teacher evaluations.
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Dissemination of policy

- Parents/carers can have a copy of the school’s DATE Policy and curriculum programme on request
- Parents are also reminded that they can view any teaching resources being used in the delivery of DATE

Drug and Alcohol related incidents

We recognise that drug related incidents in primary schools are rare but there is a need for clear procedures should an incident occur. We have identified a range of responses, incorporating both sanctions and counselling, which reflect different kinds of drug-related offences.

- All incidents will be recorded
- If there is any question of a medical emergency the school will immediately call for medical assistance.
- The Head-Teacher (or other designated staff) will be responsible for deciding how to respond to particular incidents and all factors influencing the incident will be taken into account.
- Exclusion may be appropriate in certain serious cases. In any such case the school will ensure that the excluded pupil has access to professional support and advice from health and counselling services.
- School staff will not attempt to analyse or taste an unidentified drug, but will take temporary possession of any drug suspected of being a controlled drug for the purpose of protecting our pupils from harm.
- If the drug cannot be identified it will be treated as illegal. It will be placed in a sealed container and the police informed so they can collect it as soon as possible for disposal. We will always ensure that a witness is present when taking temporary possession of any drug. We will then decide how to proceed with due regard to Child Protection policy issues.
- The Site Service Officer is responsible for checking the school site daily. Any drug related litter will be carefully removed using the advice to be found at http://www.coventry.gov.uk/info/428/health_and_safety-syringe_disposal/613/discarded_needles_and_syringes/3

Safeguarding

DATE may bring about disclosures of safeguarding children issues and all staff are conversant with the procedures for reporting their concerns. In these cases the school's Safeguarding Policy will be followed.

Confidentiality

A child's confidentiality is maintained by the teacher or member of staff concerned. If this person believes that the child is at risk or in danger, they will talk to the named child protection coordinator.

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or earlier if necessary by the designated member of staff for PSHE and the designated governor for PSHE.