

RUSKIN INFANT SCHOOL AND NURSERY



DRUGS EDUCATION POLICY

Revised: January 2020

Revised by: Catherine Starnes

To be Reviewed by: January 2022

This school policy reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole teaching and support staff and has the full agreement of the governing body.

RATIONALE

The government believes that all pupils should be offered a comprehensive programme of Personal, Social, Health and Economic education. This programme should equip pupils with a sound understanding of risk, and with the knowledge and skills necessary to make safe and informed decisions. At Ruskin Infant School and Nursery we recognise that some drugs have beneficial effects, but also that every drug has the potential to harm. We are aware that all school staff act as role-models for pupils in all aspects of school life, including how to lead a healthy lifestyle.

At Ruskin Infants School and Nursery we believe that effective Drugs Education should:

- Be delivered in a clear, honest and concise manner that informs about a healthy lifestyle.
- Encourage active pupil participation with teacher supervision.
- Be provided at regular intervals throughout the school career, maximising its effectiveness in relation to a healthy life style.
- Be evaluated.
- Be backed up with access to advice or help for pupils with problems or concerns.

EQUALITY STATEMENT

Ruskin Infant School and Nursery defines itself as a school free from discrimination. We will not discriminate against a pupil or prospective pupil by treating them less favourably because of their:

- sex,
- race,
- disability,
- religion or belief,
- sexual orientation,
- gender reassignment,
- pregnancy or maternity

The school, through its policies and staff practices will also not discriminate against a pupil because they are associated with a person that displays the 'protected characteristics' as listed above.

Ruskin Infant School and Nursery defines four kinds of unlawful behaviour in relation to the Equality Act 2010, as

- direct discrimination
- indirect discrimination
- harassment
- victimisation

No unlawful behaviour will be tolerated in any way.

AIMS

At Ruskin Infant School and Nursery we aim to:

- Increase knowledge of social and personal issues relating to drugs, alcohol and tobacco in line with the National Curriculum.
- Enhance young people's decision-making skills more generally, using alcohol and tobacco awareness as a vehicle.
- Enhance later parenting skills in relation to prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco misuse when pupils reach adulthood.
- Minimise the number of young people who ever engage in the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco.
- Delay the onset of first use for those who do experiment at any time.
- Minimise the proportion of users who adopt particularly dangerous forms of misuse.

The programme will be tailored to the age and physical and emotional maturity of the children.

MORAL STANCE

- The school condones neither the misuse of drugs, tobacco, solvents and alcohol by members of the school, nor the illegal supply of these substances.
- The school also does not condone smoking of substances on or in the vicinity of the school and its building.
- The school is committed to the health and safety of its members and will take action to safeguard their well being.
- The school acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of young people, and through the general ethos of the school, will seek to persuade pupils in need of support to come forward.
- The school supports parents who choose to come forward to request support/guidance with their own drug, alcohol and tobacco misuse.
- Fundamental to our school's values and practice is the principle of sharing the responsibility for education of young people with parents by keeping them informed and involved at all times. Effective communication and co-operation is essential to the successful implementation of this policy.

PROCEDURES/ROLES

Teachers

- The Head teacher takes overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation, for liaison with the Governing Body, parents, LEA and appropriate outside agencies and for the appointment within the school of a PSHE coordinator who will have general responsibility for handling the daily implementation of this policy. The Head teacher will ensure that all staff dealing with substance issues are subsequently trained in dealing with the issues surrounding drugs, alcohol and tobacco education or misuse.
- Teaching of Drugs Education will be provided as part of an integrated programme of health education provided by all teaching staff as part of our Science and PSHE curriculums. Such education may be provided within science classes, as appropriate within other subject areas, or as part of a broader programme of personal and social or health education.

Outside Agencies

- The school strongly believes in involving the wider community in the education of our pupils. Outside agencies will be used to assist with the delivery of the Drug Education programme, including a yearly visit from the 'Life Bus'. Local Police Liaison Officers may be used as appropriate in specific lessons or assemblies.

Parents/Carers

- Parents/carers are the key people in teaching their children about making healthy choices with regards to drugs, alcohol and tobacco. The school's Drugs Education programme will complement and support this role. The Parent Support Advisors also have an important role in finding appropriate support for families who have come forward to request support/guidance with their own drug, alcohol and tobacco misuse.

Child Protection

- The school has a Safeguarding /Child Protection Policy which is regularly updated. It should be read in conjunction with this policy. Child protection issues are monitored closely by the designated teacher for child protection, currently the Head teacher or in her absence the Deputy Head teacher as well as other trained DSLs across the school. The child protection governor supports the school by taking part in training and in actively reviewing practice and procedures.

Additional Needs

- All pupils have an entitlement to Drugs Education and it is the joint responsibility of the SENDCo and class teachers together with the Head teacher to identify children with additional needs and to plan programmes of work appropriate to their needs.

Monitoring and review

- Monitoring and reviewing of the Drugs Policy will be carried out by the coordinator, Head teacher and Senior Leadership Team

CURRICULUM

Within Key Stage 1 Drugs fits into the following areas of the National Curriculum:

PHSE

Guidance states:

- Schools should seek to use PSHE education to build, where appropriate, on the statutory content already outlined in the national curriculum, the basic school curriculum and in statutory guidance on: drug education, financial education, sex and relationship education and the importance of physical activity and diet for a healthy lifestyle.

SCIENCE

Pupils should be taught to:

- identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense. (Year 1)
- notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults. (Year 2)
- find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air). (Year 2)

APPENDIX

Guidance: Personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education, September 2013, Department for Education

Science programmes of study: key stages 1 and 2, National curriculum in England, September 2013, Department for Education

DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools : Advice for local authorities, Headteachers, school staff and governing bodies, September 2012, Department for Education