

St Mary's Church of England (VA) Primary School	
Drugs Policy	
April 2007	



Rationale

“Drug misuse is a major threat to individuals, families and the wider community. Drug education enables pupils to make healthy informed choices.” HMSO 1995

Purpose

- To provide up to date coverage of the effects of drugs, risks and legal aspects of taking drugs within the context of health education as part of the science and PSHCE curriculum.
- To provide opportunities for pupils to acquire knowledge and understanding about the dangers of drugs misuse.

Attitudes

We aim to extend the child's knowledge of themselves and the world they live in, by providing a caring, secure and supportive environment. We hope that children will make informed choices as a result of this policy.

Content

- Each child will have access to drug education, regardless of gender, ability or race. Access will be matched to their particular needs or concerns of the class.
- Children will be made aware of the effects of drugs for the individual, the family and the wider community.
- Teachers provide positive models in their attitude and approach to drugs.
- Children with Special Educational Needs will be given additional help to understand the effects and misuse of drugs.

Planning

Early Years and Key Stage One

- Children will explore the role of drugs as medicine and understand that all drugs can be harmful if not used properly.

Key Stage Two

- Children will look at the issues that all drugs have harmful effects if not used properly and that some drugs are illegal. There will be a variety of activities that address the harmful effects of drugs and the associated risks.

The entire lesson content of this policy will be found in the Drug Education element of the school Science curriculum. Audiovisual materials may be used but should be shown to a representative of the governors before use is agreed in the classroom.

Other Adults

All adults involved in the classroom activities are bound by school policy. Their role is dependent upon the class teacher's direction in these matters. Outside speakers, i.e. police, nurse and social workers, may be asked to address drug issues and drug abuse.

Parents

St Mary's Primary School will encourage parents to support their efforts on drug awareness and prevention. Parents meetings will be convened to discuss concerns and share this policy about the teaching of drug awareness.

Staff Training

School based INSET will be provided to enable staff training to take place. External agencies may be invited to provide school based support. When deemed necessary, the school will send selected staff on courses to maintain an up to date approach.

Cross-Curricular Links

This subject can be approached through other subjects in the National Curriculum.

Health and Safety

The Headteacher will ensure that all staff are prepared to deal with a drug-related medical emergency by calling a trained first-aider if available. Professional medical help will be called immediately. The Headteacher will be notified and the office will attempt to contact parents of those concerned.

This policy has been issued to and acknowledged by all staff. It will be reviewed annually or as circumstances or government directives direct.

Agreed by Staff: April 2007
Agreed by Governors: April 2007
Review: Spring 2009