**Ashdon Primary School**

**Drug and Incident Education Policy**

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| **Headteacher** | Marné Reynecke |
| **Approved by Governors** | 12/10/2023 |
| **Policy’s next review date** | 12/10/2026 |

**SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT**

Ashdon Primary School takes seriously the responsibility to protect the welfare of the pupils in its care, believing that “The welfare of the pupil is paramount” Children Act 1989.

This policy plays an integral part in our aim to safeguard the pupils and ensure their wellbeing in order to promote optimum development.

**Definition of a Drug Incident**

* Drugs or associated paraphernalia found on school premises
* Pupils found in possession of drugs or associated paraphernalia
* Pupil found to be supplying drugs
* Pupil thought to be under the influence of drugs
* Pupil discloses that they or a family member are misusing drugs.

**Aim**

The aim of this policy is to acknowledge and clarify the school’s role in drug prevention and education and ensure it is appropriate to pupils’ needs. The policy provides information and guidance about drug education, as well as procedures to respond to any drug-related incident, for pupils, teachers, support-staff and outside agencies or individuals.

The policy aims to ensure that the approach taken on the issue of drugs is a whole-school one and is part of our commitment to and concern for the health and well-being of the whole school community. Teachers will need to be confident and skilled to teach drug education and pupils need to receive up to date, relevant and accurate information as well as support.

This policy aims to make clear procedures for responding to and managing drug-related incidents. Sanctions for incidents will be consistent with the school’s behaviour policy. This policy applies at all times to the school premises, school transport as well as school visits/trips/fieldwork/residentials etc.

This policy does not cover the use of medication with pupils. Please refer to the school’s ‘Health and Safety Policy’ for further details.

**Definition**

“Drugs” are taken here to mean those that are legal, such as alcohol, tobacco and solvents, over the counter and prescribed drugs, and illegal drugs such as cannabis, ecstasy, amphetamines, heroin, crack/cocaine, LSD, Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS) and any other substances covered by the 1971 misuse of drugs act; psychoactive substances act 2016, or that is subject to a temporary class drug order (TCDO). The school prohibits all substances having psychoactive effects on the brain: depressants, stimulants, cannabinoids, and hallucinogens.

The school believes that the possession and or use of such drugs in school, during the school day or while travelling to/from school is inappropriate. The drugs/substances covered by this policy are not to be bought, sold or otherwise exchanged or brought onto school premises during the school day, or while pupils are on school visits. Individual exceptions may be made for pupils who require prescription medicines where appropriate.

**Drug Education**

The school provides planned drug education through links across the curriculum, including ‘Philosophy for Children Assemblies’, educational workshops by professionals, PHSE, RSE and Science – as well as 1:1 work, group work and mentoring.

The National Curriculum science order outlines the content of the statutory drugs education:

* Key Stage 2, pupils can list the commonly available substances and drugs that are legal and illegal and can describe some of the effects and risks of these. They can identify and explain how to manage the risks in different familiar situations (for example discussing issues connected to personal safety).

Other discretionary topics will be delivered through RSE/PHSE and outside agencies and will reflect knowledge, understanding, attitudes and social skills that will:

* Enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices
* Promote positive attitudes to healthy lifestyles
* Provide accurate information about substances
* Increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse
* Widen understanding about related health and social issues
* Enable young people to identify sources of appropriate advice and personal support

The content of our ‘Drug Education Programme’ will be based on guidance from the ‘PSHE  Association’, which builds age-appropriate foundational skills and underpinning knowledge across all of our classes including:

* Safety rules at home for medicines and household products, including what medicines and vaccinations are and how they help to keep people healthy
* The risks and effects of using tobacco, alcohol and other drugs
* Managing pressure and influences including that from peers and the media
* How to seek help and support for themselves or others in relation to health and/or substances

**Statutory duty of the school**

The headteacher takes overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation, for liaison with the Governing Body, parents/ carers, LA and appropriate outside agencies. The headteacher will ensure that all staff dealing with substance issues are adequately supported and trained.

**Implementation of the policy**

In incidents involving substance misuse or supply on the premises/during the school day, and following discussion with the pupil and staff, action will proceed as follows.

The school has adopted the procedures as laid out in Drugs: advice for schools (DFE-00001-2012)

* Any medical emergencies will be dealt with as per Appendix A
* In cases of substance use/misuse or supply on the premises, during the school day or during school visits etc, the case will be discussed with the young person and a written record put logged on the school system.
* If a pupil is suspected of carrying drugs he/she will be asked to give it up.

*Senior staff reserve the right to search pupils where they suspect pupils may be in possession of illegal drugs (there should be another member of staff present at all times).*

* If a young person admits to using or supplying substances off the premises, the appropriate action will be to inform the Headteacher. Parents will be informed.
* The support of outside agencies will be sought if appropriate.

If a member of staff has to take temporary possession of an illegal drug or paraphernalia:

* Ensure that a second adult is present throughout
* Seal the sample in a plastic bag and include details of the date and time of the incident and the other adult present
* Store in a secure location

Notify the police without delay who will dispose of the drug:

* A school cannot knowingly allow its premises to be used for the production or supply of any controlled drug (e.g. the preparation of, or smoking of cannabis). Where it is suspected that substances are being sold on the premises, details regarding those involved, and as much information as possible, will be passed to the police.

The school will consider each incident individually and will employ a range of responses to deal with each incident. Specific cases will be managed as per Appendix B.

The Governing Body will be informed of any drug-related incidents, as and when they occur, by the Headteacher as part of his/her Headteacher’s Report to the Governing Body.

The Headteacher will take responsibility for liaison with the media, where required. Additional support and advice is available from the Local Authority Communication Officer.

**Review**

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the staff and Governing Body of the school, or sooner if deemed appropriate.

**Appendix A : Drug situations – medical emergencies**

The procedures for an emergency apply when a person is at immediate risk of harm. A person who is unconscious, having trouble breathing, seriously confused or disorientated or who has taken any harmful toxic substance, should be responded to as an emergency.

The main responsibility is for the pupil at immediate risk, but you also need to ensure the well- being and safety of others. Put into practice the school’s first-aid procedures. If in any doubt, call medical help.

*Always:*

• Assess the situation

• If a medical emergency, send for medical help and ambulance

*Before assistance arrives*

If the person is conscious:

* Ask them what has happened and to identify any drug used
* Collect any drug sample and vomit for medical analysis
* Do not induce vomiting
* Do not chase or over-excite them if intoxicated from inhaling a volatile substance
* keep them under observation, warm and quiet

*If the person is unconscious:*

* Ensure that they can breathe and place in the recovery position
* Do not move them if a fall is likely to have led to spinal or other serious injury which may not be obvious
* Do not give them anything by mouth
* Do not attempt to make them sit or stand
* Do not leave them unattended or in charge of another pupil
* Notify parents/carers

For needle stick(sharps) injuries:

Encourage wound to bleed. Do not suck. Wash with soap and water. Dry and apply waterproof dressing.

If used/dirty needle seek advice from a doctor.

*When medical help arrives:*

* Pass on any information available, including vomit and any drug samples

Complete a medical first-aid form as soon as you have dealt with the emergency.