

# Drugs and substance misuse policy

## Teenage Kicks



### Drugs and Substance Misuse Policy Aims

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 should also be read in conjunction with the PSHE , medicines , health and safety and SEND policies.

This policy applies at all times to the school premises, school transport as well as school visits/trips/residentials etc.

## **1. 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 such as 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.

## **2. Drug Education:**

The school provides a planned drug education curriculum through the following:

- Key Stage 3, 11-14 year olds should be taught that abuse of alcohol, solvents, tobacco and other drugs affects health; that the body's natural defences may be enhanced by immunisation and medicines; and how smoking affects lung structure and gas exchange
- Key Stage 4, 14-16 year olds should be taught the effects of solvents, tobacco, alcohol and other drugs on body functions. Some of our pupils may access science through their mainstream schools. Other discretionary topics will be delivered through PSHE, morning meetings 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 the Drug Education Programme will be based on Appendix 2 of Drugs: Advice for Schools. [Advice template \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

### **3. Responsibility**

On the whole, it will be teachers and outside agencies who will teach drug education. Such agencies should be used in a planned way and their contributions evaluated.

Teachers will have access to on-going advice, support and training as part of their own professional development. The school actively cooperates with agencies such as the LA, police, health and drug agencies.

### **4. Statutory duty of the school:**

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

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.

### **4. 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

- 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 taken (see Appendix C); parents/carers will be informed by the head or a member of SLT as soon as possible and the support of outside agencies will be sought if appropriate as well as informing the pupil's mainstream school.
- If a young person admits to using or supplying substances off the premises, the appropriate action will be to inform the Head of centre or SLT who will inform the parents/carers and the pupil's mainstream school.
- While there is no legal obligation to inform the police, they may also be involved at the discretion of the Head in consultation with SLT members and staff who know the young person well
- 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: all staff, pupils, parents/carers will be informed of these issues.

- The Head teacher will take responsibility for liaison with the media, where required.

APPENDIX A : Drug situation – medical emergencies

APPENDIX B : Situations involving drugs without medical authority

APPENDIX C : Record of drug-related situation (a specimen record sheet

Date of Policy : August 2023 Date of Review: August 2024

Signed Head teacher: Sheree Horn

Approved by: Colin Phillips

### **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

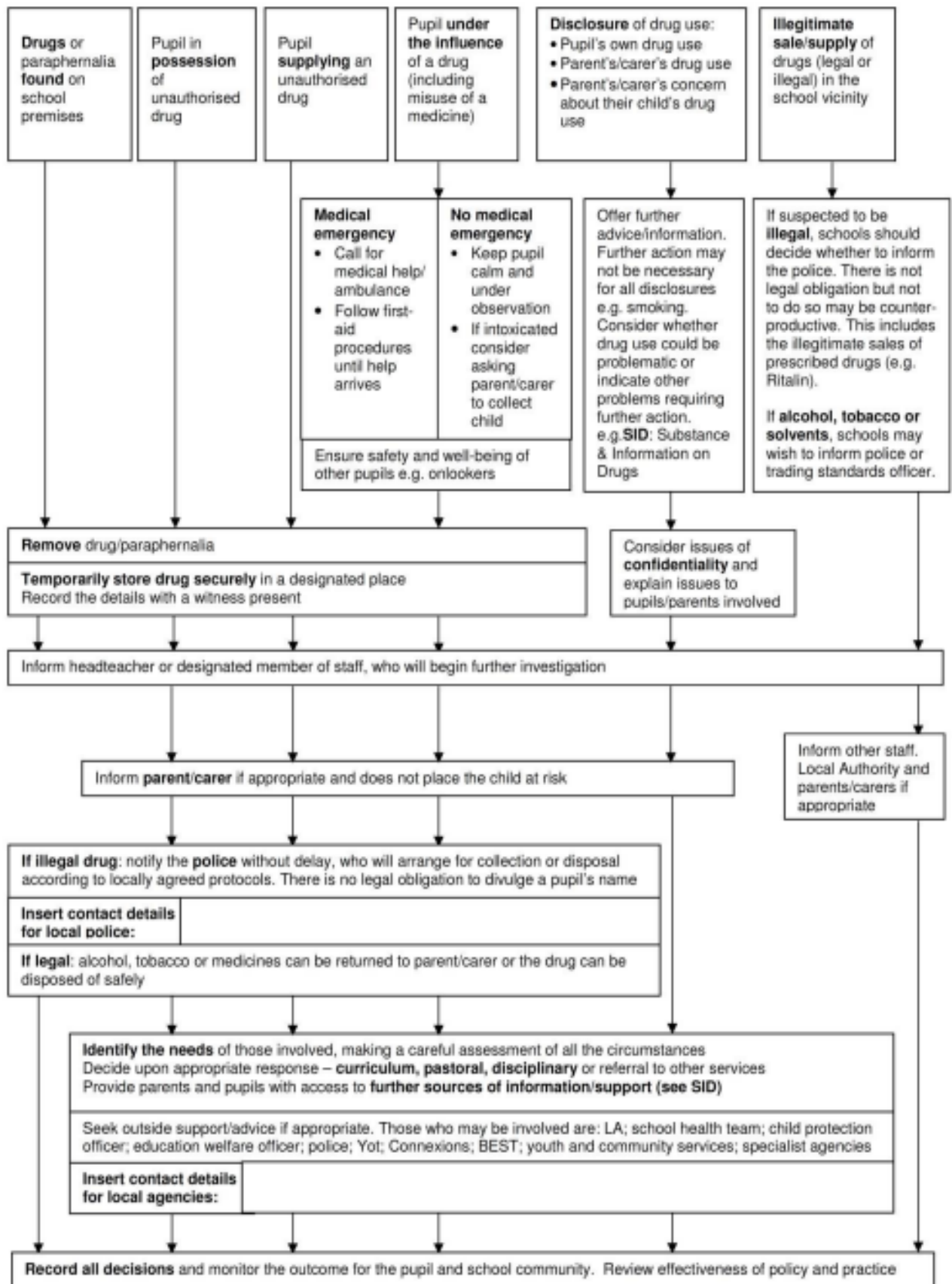
**For needle stick(sharps) injuries:**

- Encourage wound to bleed. Do not suck. Wash with soap and water. Dry and apply waterproof dressing ensuring full PPE is worn whilst administering first aid
- If used/dirty needle seek advice from a doctor – ensure the needle is disposed of correctly unless needed for investigation

**When medical help arrives**

- Pass on any information available, including vomit and any drug samples Complete a medical record form as soon as you have dealt with the emergency. This form is based on Appendix 9 of Drugs: guidance for schools. "Drugs" refers to all drugs including medicines (prescription and "over the counter"), volatile substances, alcohol, tobacco, Novel Psychoactives and illegal drugs

## APPENDIX B: Responding to incidents involving drugs



## Appendix C: Record of incident involving unauthorised drug

- 1 For help and advice, telephone the LA
- 2 Complete this form WITHOUT identifying the pupil involved
- 3 Copy the form
- 4 Send the copy within 24 hours of the incident to the LA
- 5 KEEP the original, adding the pupil's name and form – store securely

Tick to indicate the category:

- |  |                          |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Drug or paraphernalia found ON school premises       | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pupil disclosure of drug use           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Emergency/intoxication                               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Disclosure of parent/carer drug misuse | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pupil in possession of unauthorised drug             | <input type="checkbox"/> | Parent/care expresses concern          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pupil supplying unauthorised drug on school premises | <input type="checkbox"/> | Incident occurring OFF school premises | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Name of pupil * :	Name of school:
Area of Maple * : (*for school records only)	Time of incident:: am/pm
Age of pupil: MALE / FEMALE	Date of incident:
Ethnicity of pupil	
Tick box if second or subsequent incident involving same pupil	Report form completed by:

First Aid given? YES NO

Ambulance/Doctor called? YES NO  
(Delete as necessary)

First Aid given by: .....

Called by: ..... Time: .....

**Drug involved (if known):**  
(eg. Alcohol, paracetamol, Ecstasy)

Drug found/removed? YES / NO

Where found/seized:

.....

Senior staff involved:

Name and signature of witness:

.....

Disposal arranged with

(police/parents/other): .....

.....

At time:

If police, incident  
reference number:

Name of parent/carer informed \* :

(\* for school records only)

Informed by:

At time:

Brief description of incident (including any physical symptoms):

