



DRUGS & ALCOHOL POLICY

Approved On:	2 nd December 2025
Staff:	Headteacher
Notes:	Non-Statutory
Review Cycle:	3 years School Choice
Next Review Date:	Autumn 2028

Headteacher: Mrs. Kate Collins

a member of



Learning Partners

academy trust

INTRODUCTION

At Sandfield we are committed to safeguarding and investing in our pupils' health and wellbeing, because we believe doing so will assist the process of raising their achievements. Drugs education is an important issue that is both essential and relevant to children in the real world. Through our approaches to drugs education we are seeking to develop and enhance life skills that can be built on and which will help them in the future.

In developing our policy and programme of study (PSHE Association framework), we have taken full account of the DfES guidance contained in 'Guidance for schools' (2004) and the Quality Standard for Drugs Education.

At Sandfield we believe that drugs education should provide:

- Accurate information presented simply and clearly
- Informative and accessible reading materials
- Access to other adults besides teachers, providing they are expert and credible
- Opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding in a challenging and safe atmosphere where they feel secure enough to play a full and active part

We aim to provide a consistency of approach throughout the school and to encourage children to develop knowledge and skills to make informed and responsible choices now and in later life and to stress the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. At Sandfield School, we encourage children to develop positive attitudes and values and to ensure that Health and Safety procedures are followed when dealing with incidents/equipment related to drugs and drug use.

Welfare of pupils is paramount and procedures and policies are designed to reflect this commitment.

DEFINITION

At Sandfield 'drugs' include any substance that affects your body. This includes socially acceptable and unacceptable drugs. These will include:

- Tobacco
- Alcohol
- Medicines
- Illegal substances

Drugs Education is part of Personal Social Health and Economic (PSHE) Education. This will enable pupils to develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes and understanding about drugs and appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

Attitudes and values

- Developing critical thinking as part of decision making
- Having structured opportunities for the exploration of personal attitudes and values towards drugs and drug use.
- Exploring, considering and understanding attitudes and values towards drugs and drug use.
- Learning to respect & value difference & diversity

Personal and social skills

- Learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively
- Learning to manage change
- Developing self-respect and empathy for others
- Learning to make informed choices
- Exploring the risks and consequences of their own and others' actions & choices in relation to drugs and drug use.
- Having opportunities to develop a self-belief
- Learning about playing a positive and active role as citizens

Knowledge and understanding

- Learning about a safe & healthy lifestyle based on accurate information.
- Learning accurate information about drugs and drug use.

- Learning about seeking appropriate help & advice
- Developing pupils' understanding of rules and laws

HEADTEACHER ROLE

It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to ensure that staff and parents are informed about the drugs education policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the Headteacher's role to ensure that staff have sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity.

The Headteacher and PSHE lead will liaise with external agencies regarding the school drugs education programme and ensure that all adults who work with children on these issues are aware of the school policy and work within this framework.

The Headteacher will monitor the policy on a day-to-day basis and report to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

GOVERNORS ROLE

The governing body has the responsibility of setting down these general guidelines on drugs education. The governors will support the Headteacher in following these guidelines.

PARENTS ROLE

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's drugs education lies with parents. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and cooperation.

RESOURCES

Drugs education is part of the planned PSHE / RSE curriculum and is also delivered through the teaching of Science and through circle time. The PSHE guidance outlines the areas to be covered each year. In addition, the guidelines for science require that children are taught:-

- At KS1 about the role of drugs and medicines
- At KS2 that tobacco, alcohol and other drugs can have harmful effects

CROSS CURRICULAR LINKS

Drug education has many cross-curricular links, with science making a particular contribution. There are links to other subjects, such as physical education, PSHE / RSE and aspects of school life, notably the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of the curriculum.

TEACHING

Our approach to drugs education is one which the children are given information in the belief that increased knowledge about drugs and the associated risks will empower children to make informed and safe decisions. We approach this in a sensitive manner appropriate to the age and experiences of the children concerned. As a school, we use lessons to support our teaching from the PSHE Association Programme of Study, which offers a series of activities for Year 1 to Year 6, e.g. What choices help health.

Teaching is:-

- Well resourced
- Reflects the needs and experiences of pupils
- Uses a range of teaching methods including group work, discussions, videos and outside speakers
- Reinforces messages about healthy lifestyles
- Flexible and relevant
- In the context of a wider PSHE programme
- Interesting and stimulating
- Informed.

Training, monitoring and evaluation

Teaching and learning is monitored in relation to this agreed policy and the school's Teaching and Learning policy. The PSHE/RSE lead has responsibility for monitoring drug education teaching and learning in conjunction with the Headteacher.

Managing drug related incidents

Incidents are managed in the context of the school's commitment to: -

- The safety and welfare of all pupils and staff
- The welfare of individuals deemed to be at risk
- The law concerning drugs

The Headteacher retains the responsibility for deciding how to respond to particular incidents in conjunction with the PSHE/RSE Lead. This will take account of the individual concerned and whether they are a pupil, parent or member of staff.

The school's policy states that no individuals should be under the influence of drugs, while on the school premises (within the boundary of the external playground wall). Unless a doctor's note indicates that this does not affect the individual's capacity to perform their duties, take care of children in their charge, or in the case of pupils, take part in lessons.

Appendices 1, 2 and 3 outline the procedures to be followed in individual circumstances.

All incidents are recorded in the incident monitoring log.

All members of the school community are aware of these procedures and the implications for individuals. Each incident will be dealt with on an individual basis.

The school follows Surrey LEA's policy for the Handling and Disposal of drug related paraphernalia

Young children who are deemed to be at risk will be treated in relation to the school's policy on Child Protection.

Monitoring, Evaluating and Reviewing:

- Senior managers are involved in monitoring and evaluation.
- Pupils, staff, parents / carers and governors are consulted, and the programme and policy are modified where appropriate.
- There is ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the programme, teaching approaches and learning outcomes to ensure that needs are met.
- Drug education is reviewed in line with current LEA and Government guidelines.

APPENDIX 1

ILLEGAL DRUGS FOUND ON PREMISES

ADVISE Headteacher/DESIGNATED TEACHER

KEEP IN A SECURE PLACE

PHONE LOCAL POLICE TO COLLECT

Drugs Awareness
Do not touch, sniff, handle

The LA will be notified of all reported incidents

APPENDIX 2

PUPILS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS/ALCOHOL

ADVISE HEADTEACHER/DESIGNATED TEACHER

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT

INVESTIGATE POSSESSION

CHILD IS IN A SAFE PLACE

INFORM PARENTS

INFORM OTHER AGENCIES
AS NECESSARY

Inform LA Advisor of any incident

APPENDIX 3

PARENTS/CARERS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS/ALCOHOL ON SCHOOL PREMISES

ADVISE Headteacher/DESIGNATED TEACHER

Decides on one of the three options
dependent of the particular
circumstances of each incident

LOCAL POLICE

ASKED TO LEAVE
PREMISES

CONTACT SOCIAL
SERVICES

Inform LA Advisor of any incident

No alcohol will be permitted to be drunk by a member of staff on school premises
without the prior written permission of the Headteacher