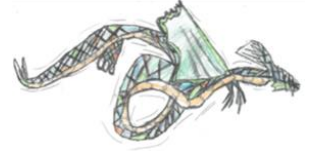
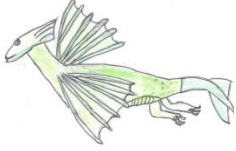


BOREHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL
A Friendship School

'Daring to aim high, scale new heights, spread our wings and fly far'



DRUG EDUCATION POLICY JANUARY 2020

Staff Consulted: 24.1.20

Approved by Governing Body: 20.1.20

Next Review Date: January 2022

Boreham Primary School

Drug Education Policy

Introduction

Boreham Primary School has a statutory duty to promote pupil's wellbeing and as part of our pastoral responsibilities a clear role in preventing drug misuse. This policy reflects guidance produced by the Department of Education and the Association of Chief Officers (ACPO) (September 2012) for schools on drugs. It also reflects the content of the QCA schemes of work, advice in the Healthy Schools Programme, and guidance from the local Drug Action team.

Aims and Objectives

The aims of this policy are to:

- clarify the school's approach to drugs, for staff, pupils, governors, parents or carers, and to clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities;
- give guidance to staff on the school's drug education programme;
- safeguard the health and safety of pupils and staff in our school;
- enable staff to manage drug-related incidents properly
- equip children with the knowledge, understanding and skills that enable them to make the sort of choices that lead to a healthy lifestyle.

Terminology

The term 'drugs' is used throughout this policy to refer to all drugs:

- all illegal drugs (those controlled by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971);
- all legal drugs, including alcohol and tobacco, and also volatile substances (those giving off a gas or vapour which can be inhaled);
- all medicines, whether over-the-counter or on prescription.

Boreham Primary School Statement

Boreham Primary School believes that the presence of unauthorised drugs in our school is not acceptable. We want our school to be a safe place for us all to work, and the presence of unauthorised drugs represents a threat to our health and safety.

Roles and Responsibilities

Head Teacher

The Head Teacher will:

- ensure that staff and parents are informed about this drugs policy;
- ensure that the policy is implemented effectively;
- manage any drug-related incidents;
- ensure that staff are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively about drugs, and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity;
- liaise with external agencies regarding the school drugs education programme;
- monitor the policy on a day-to-day basis, and report to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

Governors

The school governing body will:

- establish general guidelines on drugs education;
- support the Head Teacher in following these guidelines;
- inform and consult with parents about the drugs education policy;
- liaise with health organisations, so that the school's policy is in line with the best advice available;
- support the Head Teacher in any case conferences, or in appeals against exclusions.

Parents

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 our pupils, through mutual understanding, trust and cooperation. To promote this objective, the school will:

- inform parents about the school drug education policy and practice;
- answer any questions that parents may have about the drug education that their child receives in school;
- take seriously any issue which parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy, or about arrangements for drugs education in the school;
- encourage parents to be involved in reviewing the school policy, and making modifications to it as necessary;
- inform parents about the best practice known with regard to drugs education, so that the parents can support the key messages being given to children at school.

When an incident concerning unauthorised drugs has occurred in school, and a pupil is involved, we will inform the parents, and explain how we intend to respond to the incident.

Staff will not discharge a pupil to the care of an intoxicated parent. Staff will suggest an alternative arrangement for the pupil's collection. The focus will be the pupil's welfare and safety. Where the behaviour of an intoxicated parent places a child at risk, or the parent or carer becomes abusive or violent, staff will consult with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), to invoke child protection procedures and possibly the involvement of the police.

Objectives of Drugs Education

Drugs education should enable pupils to develop their knowledge, attitudes and understanding about drugs, and to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, relating this to their own and others' actions. It should:

- build on knowledge and understanding;
- provide accurate information, and clear up misunderstandings;
- explore attitudes and values, and examine the risks and consequences of actions relating to drugs;

- develop pupils' interpersonal skills, their understanding of rules and laws, and their self-awareness and self-esteem;
- ensure that all children are taught about drugs in a consistent manner, following guidelines that have been agreed by parents, governors and staff.

Drug Education

We regard drug education as a whole-school issue, and we believe that opportunities to teach about the importance of a healthy lifestyle occur naturally throughout the curriculum, but especially in science, PSHE and citizenship, RE and PE. There are also opportunities in circle time.

Teaching about drugs will begin in Key Stage 1, when pupils are taught about seeing the doctor, visiting the chemist, and the importance of medicines and their safe handling.

In Key Stage 2, pupils will learn that alcohol is the most widely used drug, and that its dangers can be overlooked. We will ensure that our pupils are aware of the risks associated with drinking. We teach pupils that smoking is a minority habit, and encourage them to consider its effects and risks. We also teach pupils about the dangers of volatile-substance abuse, because of the high risk of accidental death, especially for first-time and occasional abusers.

We acknowledge that by the time pupils are in Year 6, some of them may have had some experiences with drugs already, so we must help to equip pupils to handle risky situations, before they actually meet them. Year 6 pupils take part in 'Crucial Crew' provided by the Local Authority which explores how children can keep themselves safe as they move to secondary school, and includes drug and alcohol education and peer pressure.

We recognise that learning is most effective when it addresses the development of knowledge, attitudes and skills together and when teaching and learning are participative and active. We use a variety of teaching styles that are characterised by active learning. We find out what the children know already, we pose dilemmas, and we get the children to discuss choices. Wherever possible, the information we give is visually reinforced. We use drama, role-play or ICT to demonstrate various strategies and scenarios. In short, we seek to engage our pupils. We give them the opportunity to talk in groups or in whole class discussions. We encourage them to listen to the views of others, and we ask them to explore why drugs are such a problem for society.

We aim to teach all pupils about drugs, however different their attainment levels, and however diverse their requirements. We recognise that pupils with special educational needs may be more vulnerable, that different communities have different attitudes towards drug abuse, and that some pupils may have drug-abusing parents.

Drugs education takes place during normal lesson time. Sometimes, a class teacher will seek support from the school nurse or another health professional. In teaching this course, we follow the DfES and LA guidelines. The resources and materials that we use are recommended either by the Health Authority or by the LA. Lessons that focus on drugs education form part of a sequence of lessons that are designed to promote a healthy lifestyle.

Drugs at School

Prescribed medication may be administered by the school on receipt of a signed form by the parents in line with the School's Administration of Medicines policy. The possession, supply or use of unauthorised drugs (illegal or legal) is strictly prohibited on the School Premises.

Drugs Incidents

Incidents involving unauthorised drugs in school will be dealt with in line with the School's Drug and Alcohol policy.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years.

Linked Policies

Drugs and Alcohol Policy

No Smoking Policy

Administration of Medicines Policy

PSHE Policy