



BATH & WELLS  
Multi Academy Trust

'That they may have life, life in all its fullness' John 10:10



# Cheddon Fitzpaine Church School

## Drugs and Substance Misuse Policy

All policies at Cheddon Fitzpaine Church School should be taken as part of the overall strategy of the school and implemented within the context of our vision, aims and values as a Church of England School and Every Child Matters agenda.

Agreed:2014-2015

Review: 2015-2016

## **Rationale**

At Cheddon Fitzpaine Church School, we try to nurture a climate where all pupils will want to learn. Through the curriculum we aim to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of all pupils at our school to prepare them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. We do this through reinforcing positive behaviour and providing a caring response to the learning needs of the pupils. We recognise that though drugs may not always be harmful, all carry the potential for harm. Safety and effective management therefore underpin both the school's drugs education and its response to any incidents. Medicines (over the counter and prescription) will be treated with the same priority, care and respect as non-medicinal drugs.

## **The Aims of this Policy**

The school drugs, alcohol and tobacco policy aims to:

- safeguard the health and well-being of all pupils at all times
- consider all drugs, legal, medicinal and illegal and to respond constructively to the issues raised by their availability and use in society
- outline the aims, content and organisation of the school drugs, alcohol and tobacco education programme
- provide clear guidance to staff about procedures for managing drug-related incidents.

## **Part A**

### **Content and Organisation of Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco Education**

#### **Aims**

We believe drugs, alcohol and tobacco education should not be delivered in isolation, but be firmly rooted in our Personal, Social and Health Education and Citizenship programme, supplemented by Science and other subjects of our taught curriculum.

The broad educational aims of our drugs, alcohol and tobacco education programme (which are progressive as pupils move through the school) are to:

- increase the knowledge and understanding of drugs, their use and dangers, the law and local and national agencies
- explore a range of views, clarify attitudes and challenge stereotypes
- develop a range of skills to enable young people to make their own informed decisions about drugs. (Such skills include assessing and avoiding risks, communicating with others, assertiveness, accessing information and advice, helping others, first aid etc).

## **Content**

Drugs, alcohol and tobacco education is taught within the context of the requirements of the Science Curriculum and also within the context of PSHE provision.

Through PSHE provision, our drugs, alcohol and tobacco education plans to provide opportunities for the pupils to:

- take responsibility for themselves and others
- feel positive about themselves
- participate
- make real choices and decisions
- meet and work with people
- develop positive relationships
- consider some simple social and moral dilemmas arising from different aspects of life
- prepare for change.

The intention is for all our pupils to follow a progressive programme for drugs, alcohol and tobacco education that identifies the requirements of the Science Curriculum and the PSHE Framework.

## **Organisation**

Aspects of drugs, alcohol and tobacco education are encompassed within the ethos of the school and may be delivered through:

- PSHE lessons
- Core and foundation subjects
- Assembly time
- Circle time
- Literacy/numeracy lessons
- Health weeks
- Focus days
- Collapsed timetable days
- Theatre in Education visits
- Project/theme lessons.

The drugs, alcohol and tobacco programme will be delivered by:

- Class/Form teachers/tutors
- Specific teacher/s or a dedicated team of teachers
- Other specified visitor/s or agency(s).

## **Planning to meet the needs of pupils**

The needs of pupils will vary according to the experiences and beliefs of individual pupils or groups of pupils and their families. An assessment of current levels of knowledge, understanding and attitudes and self-perceived needs at the start of any

programme will highlight misconceptions and draw on relevant real-life experiences, using them as starting points.

### **Inclusion**

Teachers will take account of potential barriers to learning drugs, alcohol and tobacco education that arise from pupil's personal circumstances, for example where pupils have drug or alcohol misusing parents, and DfES Guidance for Schools (3.1 p32) or are themselves experiencing problems with misuse. We recognise that sometimes some pupils' needs cannot entirely be met in school and we aim to support the welfare of such pupils by accessing specialist sources of help. Specialist help may include support from:

- social care workers
- youth workers
- Connexions advisers
- drug and alcohol services.

### **Use of Outside Speakers and Visitors**

Where appropriate and possible, we use external speakers/visitors/experts. Contributors are always informed of what has gone before and what is expected of them, and their role and contribution carefully negotiated to ensure it meets the needs of the pupils. A teacher is always present when visitors are working with our pupils.

### **Working with Parents**

The school is committed to working in close partnership with parents and carers who have a role to play in teaching their children about drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

## **Part B**

### **The Management of Drug Related Issues**

#### **(i) Medicines**

We ensure that pupils know the school rules that all medicines need to be managed at school by teachers and other school staff, and can only be brought on to school premises with teachers' knowledge and approval. Medicines will always be in the care of teachers or managed by pupils with teacher supervision as specified in the Managing Medicines guidance.

#### **(ii) Legal Drugs**

Pupils are not permitted to be in possession of or use alcohol, tobacco, matches, lighters or volatile substances either in school, travelling to and from school or on school trips. Any found will be confiscated, and returned to parents, who will normally be informed as a matter of course.

#### **(iii) Tobacco**

Smoking is not allowed on the school premises both within the school building and school playgrounds. The no-smoking policy applies to all visitors to the school, for example, parents, suppliers, supply or temporary staff and contractors.

**(iv) Alcohol**

Alcohol is sometimes permitted on the school premises (with permission from the Head Teacher) during social events, for example, PTA events. Non-alcoholic drinks will always be available during such events.

**(v) Illegal Drugs**

If any pupil is found in possession of an illegal drug, it will be confiscated and stored in locked cupboard in the school office until arrangements are made with the local police for its collection. Police will be informed and their advice followed.

**Monitoring and Evaluation**

The drugs, alcohol and tobacco policy is monitored and evaluated by the Governors as part of the programmed cycle of policy review and renewal.