

<p style="text-align: center;">LETHBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DRUG ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO EDUCATION POLICY</p>

This policy takes full account of the school's legal obligations and the latest DfES guidance

Policy Formulation

The policy was discussed by teachers, senior management and the governors

Rationale

DAT stands for Drug Alcohol and Tobacco education. This terminology is used in this policy to stress that our approach goes beyond provision of information to also focus on increasing children's knowledge and understanding, developing their personal and social skills and enabling children to explore their own and other people's attitudes to drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

The context of the school

Lethbridge Primary school is a mixed religious school but predominantly Christian or people with no religious beliefs. The children range in age from Reception 4yrs old to Year 6 where the children are 11yrs old. We have a small minority of children from ethnic groups and cultures other than English. The majority of children come from socially secure backgrounds, for example, we have a low percentage of children on free school meals.

Aims and Purpose

The aims of drug education are to:

1. Increase children's understanding and clarify their misconceptions about;
 - The short and long term risks of drugs
 - The rules and laws relating to drugs
 - The impact of drugs on individuals, families and communities
 - The prevalence and acceptability of drug use among peers
 - The complex, moral, social, emotional and political issues surrounding drugs
2. Develop children's personal and social skills to make informed decisions and keep themselves safe and healthy, including:
 - Assessing, avoiding and managing risk
 - Communicating effectively
 - Resisting pressures
 - Finding information, help and advice
 - Devising problem solving and coping strategies
 - Developing self awareness and self esteem
3. Enabling children and young people to explore their own and other's attitudes towards drugs, drug use and drug users, including challenging stereotypes and exploring media and other influences.

A brief overview of specific issues for each year group and what the school has chosen to cover is in Appendix A

Organisation and content

Effective drug education is taught in the following ways:

- An assessment of pupil's current level of language and understanding is undertaken prior to drug education lessons
- As part of the spiral programme of personal, social, moral and health education it will build on concepts that the children and young people already know and understand. It will link with work on safety, relationships and communication skills
- It will use language appropriate to their age, readiness, culture, ethnicity and vulnerability
- It will be relevant to the backgrounds, cultures, ethnicity and needs of children
- It will focus on relevant situations and subsequent emotions that influence choice, thinking skills, especially risk assessment and problem solving and interpersonal skills, particularly assertiveness
- It will offer accurate, credible sources of information, rather than sensationalised information
- It will ensure that all children, regardless of background and attainment, can equally access the programmes of work

Videos and hands on resources from the Healthy Schools team and member agencies of the Healthy Schools Alliance (see file in staff room or Appendix B listing all agencies associated with the Swindon Healthy Schools Alliance) are used

The above methodologies allow children to practise skills, use their knowledge and understanding, explore, change views and make positive choices in life.

Sensitive issues will be discussed in staff meetings (as appropriate) to provide ways to support staff delivering DAT curriculum. DAT involves consideration of a number of sensitive issues about which different people may hold strong and varying views. The school's approach to DAT will be balanced and take account of, and be sensitive to, different viewpoints but will not be based on personal bias. We shall endeavour to have an approach that is educational, rather than one based on propaganda.

Responsibility for DAT

A **whole school approach** will be adopted to DAT that actively involves the whole school community. All groups who make up the school community have rights and responsibilities regarding DAT. A breakdown of this is below.

The **Senior Leadership Team** (SLT) will endeavour to support the provision and development of DAT in line with this policy by providing leadership and adequate resourcing.

The responsibility of effective delivery in the classroom lies with the **class teacher**. All teachers play an important pastoral role by offering support to pupils. Teachers will be consulted and aided in their DAT work by the provision of resources, background information about relevant children in their classes, support and advice from experienced members of staff or outside organisations where required and access to appropriate training.

The **Child Protection Officer (CPO)** will be able to assist where required.

The designated **DAT co-ordinators** (PCSHE) are responsible for the development for the DAT programme that meets all legal requirements as well as the needs of the children. It also includes

keeping up to date with developments and good practice, developing the provision to meet student's needs, providing support and resources for staff, arranging staff training, liaising with outside agencies and monitoring and evaluation.

Non-teaching staff (T.A's, M.D.S.A's) may be involved in a supportive role in some DAT lessons, circle times and assemblies. They may also play an important, informal pastoral support role with pupils. They will have access to information about what that year group is doing in DAT and have access to attend appropriate staff training sessions.

Governors have responsibilities for school policies. They will be consulted about DAT provision and policy and have reports at Governors' meetings where appropriate.

Pupils will be informed on how to access support from outside agencies such as Frank, Swindon Health Care Unit and others within the Swindon Healthy Schools Alliance.

Partnership with Parents and Carers

Information on DAT in the school curriculum is contained in the school prospectus.

Parents/carers are encouraged to offer their opinions, comments or suggestions through the child's class teacher, leading tutor or governing body.

Partnership with Visitors

Use is made of teaching resources from a number of agencies. This includes Swindon Health Promotion and the LEA advisory Teacher and the school's attached nurse is informed of the content of the programme.

The school's nurse is invited to attend any DAT events/decision making meetings.

The school nurse is involved in the planning and delivery of some sessions as appropriate. Current information on local/national trends and up to date research is also disseminated through school drop in sessions (in staff meetings).

Individual advice and counselling

Matters of an individual nature pertaining to drugs, alcohol and tobacco are referred to the appropriate member of the school team: Head, CPO or ILL (Inclusive Learning Leader), Mrs Mayes (Inclusive Learning Leader).

Drugs on School premises

- Alcohol and tobacco are only permitted on school premises in the possession of adults and must be kept in a safe place away from any children at all times
- The school is a no smoking site at all times
- Suitable arrangements have been made for staff who smoke to smoke outside of school premises
- Alcohol is only permitted to be drunk by staff at school on social occasions when no pupil is present on the premises
- Illegal drugs are not allowed on school premises at any time
- Medicines can be kept in school in line with our Medicine and Supporting Children in School with Medical Conditions policy. Any medicines kept in school by staff for their own use must be kept in a safe place away from children at all times

Drugs off school premises

Schools should be aware of the potential for drug misuse, including alcohol, whilst on an educational trip either in this country or abroad. It would be advisable for the school staff responsible to check legal procedures in any foreign country to be visited.

Response to drug related incidents

Pupils are not permitted to be in possession of or use alcohol, tobacco, matches, lighters, sniffable products or any illegal drugs at any time. Any found will be confiscated and only returned to parents or police. Parents will be informed. Medicines must be kept in the care of adults or managed by pupils with agreed teacher supervision (please refer to Medicine and Supporting Children in School with Medical Conditions policy). If any pupil is thought to be under the influence of a drug, medical help will be sought at once and first aid given if required, in addition to routine enquiries to find out what drug is involved, its source and whether any other pupils are involved. The priority will be pupils' safety.

If any pupil or adult on the school premises is found in possession of an unauthorised drug, regardless of which, it will be confiscated. The drug co-ordinator must be informed and will take the lead in deciding how to respond further. Each situation will be judged carefully. If the drug is suspected to be illegal, the school will contact the relevant police officer who will discuss the situation. A record will be kept. The range of sanctions for rule breaking will be similar to those for other transgressions depending on the nature and gravity of the offence.

Equal Opportunities

Young people may have varying needs regarding DAT depending on their circumstances and background. The school strongly believes that all pupils should have access to DAT education that is relevant to their particular needs. To achieve this the school will take into account:

The needs of boys as well as girls

Ethnic and cultural diversity

Varying home backgrounds

Sexuality

Special Educational Needs

Partnership with pupils

The school accepts that an effective policy on DAT requires information from pupils both at the development and implementation stages. This will be achieved by:

School/class councils

Circle time

Peer educators

Annual/termly meetings with SML

Evaluation/monitoring

Information from class teachers about specific issues

Pupils who seek direct advice are referred to the child protection co-ordinator and are encouraged to discuss the matters with:

Their parents, guardians or appropriate relative

School nurse

Another teacher

If individuals raise particularly explicit issues, such issues will not be discussed in class and the pupils will be advised to discuss these matters with those listed above at an appropriate time. Checks will be made that this contact has been made.

Some ground rules and distancing techniques could include:

No one (teacher or pupil) should be expected to answer a personal question

No one will be forced to take part in the conversation

Only correct terminology will be used

Meanings of words will be explained in a sensible and factual way

Confidentiality Policy

Complete secrecy can never be promised to a pupil, though information given in confidence will not generally be disclosed to anyone else unless it raises child protection concerns. It may be appropriate to refer a pupil to an outside agency. The following statement may be of use when talking to a pupil:

We listen to what you have to say and won't tell other people, but if we think that you or any other young person are at risk of harm, then we may need to discuss this with others to get the help you need – wherever possible with your knowledge.

In accordance with school and LEA policy, a commitment to equal opportunities will be built into all aspects of Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco education. This policy links closely with the equal opportunities policy, the bullying policy and the LEA guidelines on child protection. We intend to meet individual students' needs to enable them to achieve academically and in their personal relationships.

Training

Opportunities for all teachers for further training in the delivery of drug, alcohol and tobacco education will be sought and accepted wherever circumstances permit.

The PCSHE co-ordinator will be responsible for organising the training of staff delivery of DAT. All staff will be issued with guidance for the delivery of the programme.

Resources will be provided by the PCSHE co-ordinator and will be monitored by them for suitability.

Advice and support will be sought from the school nurse, DSL and others as applicable.

Parents can request to view resources and be given a time to view them. They will also be provided with information on how to access support if required.

Policy Implementation

The policy will be available in the school office for access by all staff/parents/carers.

All drug, alcohol and tobacco education will be delivered according to the policy framework.

Other agencies that work with the school will be informed of the DAT policy.

The school is part of the Wiltshire and Swindon Healthy Schools which support all health education within the school such as:

Healthy Schools Status.

Procedures for Evaluation, Monitoring and Review

Understanding in drug, alcohol and tobacco education will be demonstrated through assessment against learning objectives which will be built into curriculum planning. A variety of assessment techniques will be used including discussion, scrutiny of work, pupil self assessment and peer assessment. The purpose of this is to establish the validity of both the content and the presentation of the sessions. The PCSHE co-ordinator will monitor lessons throughout the school and year groups.

The PCSHE co-ordinator is responsible for considering issues raised by any of the evaluation procedures and will action specifics by discussing them in a staff meeting with other staff.

Staff are individually responsible for monitoring of their practice through their own recording systems. Individual information that is confidential about that child to be kept in the SEN file.

Complaints Procedure

Complaints about content and/or delivery of the DAT programme will be addressed to the Head or Governors depending on the school's official complaints procedure.

Policy Reviewed January 2016

To be reviewed January 2018

This policy was last reviewed in January 2016 by the PCSHE Co-ordinator and Head Teacher.

Appendix A

Reception

What do I do to keep myself healthy?

What goes into my body?

Who can help me to be safe and healthy?

Year 1

How do medicines get into the body?

How do we use medicines to keep us healthy?

How can medicines and other substances harm me?

Year 2

How do medicines and alcohol affect the body?

How can medicines harm me?

Making safe choices

Year 3

How do people keep healthy?

How does smoking affect the body?

How can I make healthy choices?

Year 4

Legal drugs in society

Safe use of legal substances and medicines

Friendship, relationships and influences

Year 5

Why do people use drugs and solvents?

Resisting peer pressure

What to do in an emergency

Year 6

Facts about illegal drugs

Influences on behaviour and stereotyping

Resisting peer pressure and sources of support

Appendix B:

DAT programme from Reception to Year 6 to be followed from September 2009:

(hard copy only)