



Westcott Church of England School

High Street, Westcott, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP18 0PH

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Headteacher **Mr Barry Grace**

Westcott C of E School

Drugs and Substance Misuse Policy – 2018-2020

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Teaching and Learning Policy, the Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) Policy and the following:

- Assessment Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Equality and Community Cohesion Policy
- Early Years Foundation Stage Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- SEND Policy
- Other documents that support the teaching and learning of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education:
 - Development Matters (for the Early Years Foundation Stage)
 - Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) resources
 - Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education (DATE) resources

Throughout this policy 'parents' denotes those with parental responsibility.

1. Mission Statement

Westcott Church of England School is committed to the safeguarding and wellbeing of children in its care and we believe that pro-active personal, social and health education is instrumental in the development of children's self-esteem and ability to take responsibility for themselves and their actions. In this way, children learn to take care of themselves and are prepared for later life.

Children need knowledge and skills appropriate to their level of maturity and developmental needs. This includes education on issues relating to the use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco and other substances and the consequences of misuse. The School condones neither the misuse of drugs and alcohol by members of the school nor the illegal supply of these substances.





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1.1 Aims and Objectives

- To enable pupils to make healthy informed choices and resist peer and/or media pressure;
- To provide accurate information about substances;
- To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse;
- To encourage an understanding for those experiencing or likely to experience substance use;
- To develop an understanding of related health, social and economic issues;
- To enable pupils to identify sources of appropriate personal support.

2. Approaches to Teaching and Learning

Drugs Education is taught mainly by the class teacher as part of the continuing Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE). Other professionals eg School Nurse and/or the Community Police Officer will be involved in the drugs education programme, where appropriate, particularly with older pupils. (See PSHE Policy for further details)

3. Resources

The main resource that has been adopted by Belmont is the Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education (DATE) resource, which sets out a specific programme for all age groups. Other resources are used to provide extra material and resources as required.

4. Learning Environment

See PSHE Policy

5. Planning

Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco Education (DATE) is taught as a block of lessons over approximately one week rather than spread over a longer period. This allows sometimes sensitive and difficult issues to be followed through and built upon without long breaks between lessons.



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6. Assessment

Teachers will review the effectiveness of the programme delivered in conjunction with the PSHE Subject Leader. Children will be given the opportunity at the end of the unit to share the successes of the unit and areas for improvement in line with the PSHE and Assessment Policies. Such assessment is considered very valuable to monitor the effectiveness of the programme in terms of children's learning and to feed into the next cycle of planning.

7. Cross Curricular Opportunities

Health, moral and economic implications of use of drugs, alcohol and/or tobacco allow links to be made to Science, RE and Maths respectively.

8. Enhancing the Curriculum

Visits by professionals such as Community Police Officers, role play, any appropriate available programmes or workshops.

9. Inclusion

Our purpose is to deliver a well-planned and appropriate curriculum, which meets the needs of the children in each group and the community that we serve, in line with our policy on Equality and Teaching and Learning Policy.

10. Health and Safety and Safeguarding

Children's safety is paramount. Issues raised by a child must be dealt with sensitively and appropriately. Where potential safeguarding issues are raised by an individual pupil during DATE, teachers will need to exercise their discretion and judgment about how to deal with this and the child will need to be informed that another adult may need to be told. Any concerns must be reported to the Head Teacher as designated person for child protection immediately.

11. Roles and Responsibilities including Management of Drug Related Incidents

11.1 Headteacher

The Headteacher takes overall responsibility for the Policy and its implementation, for liaison with the Governing Board, parents, LA and appropriate outside agencies.

In the event of an incident of the misuse or supply of drugs on the premises, or if a pupil admits to using or supplying substances off the premises, the Headteacher will



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- inform Social Services, the Community Police Officer and any other agencies deemed appropriate;
- inform the parents of the pupil involved at the earliest opportunity. The School will then work with parents to support the pupils;
- consider each substance incident individually, recognising that a variety of responses will be necessary to deal with incidents;
- seek to balance the interests of pupils involved, the other members of the School Community and the local Community;
- seize and/or inform police of any illegal substances brought onto School premises following agreed policy for searching pupils and/or their belongings;
- follow the LA guidelines when dealing with incidents involving members of staff;
- be responsible for liaison with the media following consultation with the LA Press Officer and Legal Department.

In addition as senior designated person for child protection, the Headteacher has responsibility to

- inform Social Services as appropriate and liaise with them following the incident;
- Write/collate reports of the incident and to store them confidentially.

11.2 Welfare Assistant

The welfare assistant or other trained First Aider has responsibility to:

- provide initial medical care, if necessary, and to inform the Headteacher or other senior member of staff immediately of any substance misuse or suspected misuse.
- provide a written report for the designated person for child protection following any incident of substance misuse.

11.3 All Staff

All staff have responsibility to:

- be aware of issues surrounding substance misuse, alert for signs or incidents and to inform the Headteacher immediately of any concerns.
- maintain strict confidentiality at all times, speaking only to appropriate persons identified above.



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11.4 Parents

We acknowledge that parents have a shared responsibility in the education of children about drug related issues along with the development of attitudes and positive self-esteem. Because of this we believe it is important that the school provides opportunities for parents to increase their own knowledge of the issues surrounding drug misuse and the establishment of positive values and self-confidence.

12. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed according to the cycle agreed by the governors' Curriculum and Achievement Committee for curriculum policies, or when new legislation or guidance becomes available.

The teaching programme is also subject to review and its effectiveness should be assessed at least every two years or as appropriate and be discussed with the Headteacher and Governing Board.

This policy was adopted on 01/09/2018.

The policy is to be reviewed by 01/09/2020