



POLICY ON SUBSTANCE MISUSE

This policy was agreed by the Governing Body in January 2012 and implemented in January 2012. It will be reviewed in May 2019.

Signed Chair of Governors

Signed Headteacher

Policy Information

This policy has been formulated in consultation with the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher and Governors of the School. The document produced by Rhondda Cynon Taff Education Service was also adhered to in the formulation of the policy. This policy replaces the school's "Drug Education Policy" and has been updated in line with the Welsh Assembly Government circular 2002 – Substance Misuse: Children and Young People

Issues considered

- What substances will be covered by this policy?
The Misuse of Drugs Act categorises substances into Class A, B and C. Any drug in these categories is illegal. This policy also covers prescription and over the counter drugs, alcohol and tobacco.
- Substance misuse
- Health and safety issues
- Health Promoting School

Rationale

1. The School will not condone the misuse of substances by members of the school, nor the illegal supply of those substances
2. The drugs covered by this policy are not permitted to be bought, sold or otherwise obtained on school premises. This includes school visits, which may extend beyond the normal school day. These rules apply to adults working at and for the school or using school premises for other purposes. Individual consideration may be made for those who need to take prescribed medicines where appropriate.
3. The School is committed to the health and safety of its members and will take action to safeguard their well being
4. The School acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of young people and through the general ethics of the school, will seek to persuade pupils in need of support to come forward.
5. The School will adopt a consistent and co-ordinated approach to substance misuse education with clearly defined aims and objectives enshrined in the school's policy for substance misuse education and for managing drug related incidents

Aims

1. The School will seek to educate young people in acquiring the knowledge, skills and attitudes which will enable them to appreciate the benefit of a healthy lifestyle to make informed lifestyle choices and relate these to their own actions now and in the future.
2. The School seeks to set up Substance Misuse and Health Education programmes within the broader context of P.S.E. education which will give young people accurate and up to date information about the effects, risks and legal aspects of substance misuse
3. The School seeks to provide opportunities for pupils to communicate, assert themselves and make responsible decisions, identify risks and help others, thereby enhancing their competence and self-esteem.

Objectives

1. The establishment of a co-ordinated and consistent Substance Misuse and Health Education programme from Year 7 to Year 13
2. To establish a Substance Misuse/Health Education Programme which is appropriate to the needs and maturities of pupils at all levels which reflects pupils local circumstances and current knowledge and attitudes to drugs. This programme is to be accessible to all pupils.
3. To equip pupils with the skills and confidence to deal with negative pressures from peers and society
4. To provide accurate information about substances and to increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of substance use and misuse
6. To enable young people to identify sources of appropriate personal support

Organisation

PSE is taught within curriculum lessons in Year 7 and 8 and through planned PSE days in Years 9-13. Pupils will receive a broad, progressive programme that deals with substance use and misuse in an informative and accurate manner. Pupils are made aware of the risks and legal aspects involved. Headed by the P.S.E. Co-ordinator, programmes for the PSE days are planned where guest speaker are invited to provide up to date and relevant information about substance misuse. Pupils in Years 7 and 8 have topics covered within their subject areas where relevant. The school actively co-operates with outside agencies to deliver its commitment to the programme of study.

Each member of staff will receive a copy of the policy, which shows clearly defined aims and objectives and the appropriate action needed in response to an incident.

Content of the Curriculum

Throughout the P.S.E. programme many of the sessions centred on substance misuse are supported with talks from the Treatment and Education Drug Service [TEDS]. This agency is made fully aware of the organisation of P.S.E. in the school and follows carefully the content delivered within the curriculum. This ensures continuity and reinforcement of any work done in the classroom. These lesson plans are included in the P.S.E. Handbook.

<u>Year 7</u> What are Drugs Legal drugs Effects of Smoking & Alcohol Peer Pressure	<u>Year 8</u> Drug Awareness Illegal Drugs Names, effects, Risks TEDS talks
<u>Year 9</u> Drugs and their effects Wider Implications of drug abuse– family, friends, crime Opinions Stereotyping	<u>Year 10</u> TEDS talks
<u>Year 11</u> Reinforcement of drug programme Opinions	<u>Sixth Form</u> Lessons in the Sixth Form centre on pupil led discussions

Procedures for Monitoring and Evaluation

The monitoring of the policy will be the responsibility of the member of staff designated as co-ordinator of P.S.E., Departmental Supporter, Headteacher and Governors.

Internal evaluation of the programme will be carried out through lesson observations and staff feedback. Questionnaires, will determine pupil satisfaction with the Substance Misuse/Health Education programme. Consideration will also be given to parental feedback. Monitoring will be carried by the P.S.E. Co-ordinator and Senior Management.

Responding to an Incident

In response to an incident, members of staff must immediately inform the headteacher/senior staff who will then follow the appropriate procedures. A copy of the response procedure is available in each staff room and is given in this policy.

The National Assembly Guidelines on

'Substance Misuse: Children and Young People' 2002 is available from the P.S.E. Co-ordinator. This is a comprehensive and up to date guide which includes information on:

- The law on substances
- Substances of concern
- Child Protection Issues
- Substance Misuse Referral Forms
- Ofsted report summaries on 'Drugs Education in Schools'
- Sources of Help and Support
- Useful Publications and Information

Dissemination of Policy

The policy will be made available to all members of staff, parents and governors.

Compiled by: H Burgum, Deputy Headteacher	Revision Number: 5
Approved by: SMT, Governing Body	Revision date: May 2018 Person Responsible: J Davies