



# **Whole School Policy for Drug Education**

**Reviewed: September 2025**  
**Next review: September 2026**

## **1 Aims and objectives**

- 1.1** We aim to equip children with the knowledge, understanding and skills that enable them to make the sort of choices that lead to a healthy lifestyle. Our drugs education programme has the primary objective of helping children to become more confident and responsible young people. We aim to equip our children with the social skills that enable them to make informed moral and social decisions as appropriate to the young age of our children. We teach children about the dangers to health posed by drug-taking.
- 1.2** The objectives of our drugs education programme are:
- to help children become more self-confident so that they are able to make sensible and informed decisions about their lives;
  - to ensure that all children are taught about safe drugs and medicines in a way that is appropriate to infant children.
  - to let children know what they should do if they come across drugs, or are aware of other people misusing drugs;
  - to help children respect their own bodies and, in so doing, reduce the likelihood that they will eventually be persuaded to become involved in drug abuse;

## **2 Organisation**

- 2.1** We regard drugs education as a whole-school issue, and we believe that opportunities to teach about the importance of living a healthy lifestyle occur throughout the curriculum. Each class teacher answers questions about drugs sensitively and appropriately, as they occur. In the routine circle-time sessions, we encourage children to discuss issues that are important to them, and we help children to be aware of the dangers of the misuse of drugs. For example, if a child raises the issue of smoking, the teacher takes time to discuss its harmful effects with the whole class. In science lessons we teach children what a drug is, and how drugs are used in medicine.
- 2.2** Drugs education is an important part of our school's personal, social and health education (PSHE) curriculum. The main teaching about drugs takes place in Sir John Sherbrooke Junior School in Year 6, where the children are taught about illegal drugs, and the dangers involved to those who take them.

## **3 The role of the headteacher**

- 3.1** It is the responsibility of the head teacher to ensure that staff and parents are informed about this drugs education policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the head teacher's role to ensure that staff are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity.
- 3.2** The head teacher will liaise with external agencies regarding the school drugs education programme and ensure that all adults who work with children on these issues are aware of the school policy and work within this framework.
- 3.3** The head teacher will monitor the policy on a day to day basis and report to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

## **4 The role of governors**

- 4.1** The governing body has the responsibility of setting down these general guidelines on drugs education. The governors will support the head teacher in following these guidelines. Governors will inform and consult with parents about the drugs education policy. Governors will also liaise with the LA and health organisations so that the school's policy is in line with the best advice available.

## **5 The role of parents**

- 5.1** 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 children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation. In promoting this objective we will:
- inform parents about the school drugs education policy and practice and answer any questions raised.
  - 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 our infant children at school.

## **6 Monitoring and review**

- 6.1** The governing body on an annual basis will monitor the drugs education policy. This committee will report their findings and recommendations to the full governing body as necessary, if the policy appears to need modification. The Personnel Committee takes into serious consideration any representation from parents about the drugs education programme and comments will be recorded. Governors require the head teacher to keep a written record detailing the content and delivery of the drug education programme taught in the school.