Learning together
with God's love

HOLY TRINITY C E (A) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Drugs Education Policy

Vision

We aspire to be a happy, confident and caring community where children are motivated to achieve their full potential in a supportive learning environment, underpinned by a strong Christian ethos.

1 John 4: 16: 'God is love and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them'.

POLICY	Drugs Education Policy
SOURCE	HTS
REVIEWED BY	Established 2007 Reviewed 2009, 2011, 2013 Reviewed by Staffing & Curriculum Committee May 2017 Reviewed by Teaching, Learning & Ethos Committee June 2020
APPROVED	18.06.20
REVIEW DUE	Summer 2023

Rationale

Drug use and misuse has become increasingly common in our society. At Holy Trinity we recognise that there is a need to ensure that young people have the opportunity to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills to prepare them for the world in which they live. An important aspect of this is enabling them to make informed decisions about their behaviour and attitudes towards drugs in their many forms.

What is a drug?

A drug is *any* substance taken into the body, which alters the way in which the body functions either physically, emotionally or mentally. These will include medicines, drugs, alcohol and nicotine.

Aim

At Holy Trinity, our aim is to equip the children with appropriate strategies to make informed choices about every aspect of drugs.

Objectives

By the end of Key Stage 1 our children will:

- Understand and explain why some behaviours contribute towards a healthier lifestyle
- Understand that all medicines are drugs but not all drugs are medicines
- Know what is safe to put into/onto the body and that all substances can be harmful if not used properly
- Be aware of the rules for keeping safe at home and at school, in relation to substances and drugs

By the end of Key Stage 2, in addition to the above, our children will:

- Know about a range of legal and illegal drugs encountered in everyday life and the law relating to them
- Have developed some understanding of their effects and their associated risks
- Understand the rules and laws associated with drugs
- Understand that pressure to take harmful or illegal substances may come from a range of people, including people they know
- Understand the significance of peer pressure and develop a positive approach towards personal safety and risk-taking
- Be able to think critically when faced with a drug-related incident

Teaching and Learning

In keeping with the school's approach to teaching PSHCE, a variety of teaching and learning methods are used as appropriate to the topic and needs of the pupils (see PSHCE Policy).

Working with parents

Parents will be involved in the teaching programme through curriculum meetings and workshops where appropriate. There may be occasions where parents seek information, advice and support from the school. These will be responded to on an individual basis, drawing upon a range of resources such as publications and external professional agencies.

Responding to incidents

Examples of drug related incidents may include:

- drugs or drug paraphernalia found on school premises
- intoxication of a child or adult
- disclosure
- children bringing drugs into school without the school's knowledge
- older children/adults outside the school promoting drug experimentation

If an incident occurs involving drugs on the school premises, we will respond in the following way.

- determine the nature of the alleged incident in consultation with all those involved and assess the risk i.e. Is it an emergency?
- inform the Headteacher or a member of the senior leadership team immediately
- if appropriate, isolate the child(ren) from the class
- named person(s) only to contact the parents of the child(ren) involved
- assess whether or not the School's Police Liaison Officer and/or Social Care should be contacted
- decide whether or not the child needs to be sent home
- record the incident
- if appropriate, refer child(ren)/family to other agencies for guidance or counselling
- determine whether sanctions need to be implemented e.g. warnings, reprimands, exclusions.

Following an incident involving drugs, the school will evaluate the drugs education programme to ensure that it meets the needs of our children. The Chair of Governors will also be informed of the incident.

The use of legal drugs on school premises

At Holy Trinity CE (A) Primary School, we operate a no-smoking policy. We recognise that there may be occasions where the consumption of alcohol may be appropriate e.g. PTA functions. Where the use of alcohol has been sanctioned, a license is always applied for. All staff are aware of their influence as role models in both their attitudes and behaviours regarding tobacco, alcohol and other drugs.