



Drugs Education Policy

Approved by:	Deputy Headteacher
School Lead:	Deputy Headteacher
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07536911 (England and Wales)**

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It is the policy of the Governors to ensure that students are informed of the risks involved in drug abuse and are equipped with knowledge and skills through a programme of education which emphasises the benefits of a healthy life-style, and enables students to make informed, responsible choices and negotiate their way safely in a drug-using culture. The policy relates both to the use of illegal (controlled) drugs and those, such as alcohol, tobacco, vapes and other substances, which (whilst legal) are potentially harmful.

Drugs Education

Drugs education takes place in the pastoral and the academic curriculum:

- In Key Stage 3 Science, students are taught that the healthy functioning of the human body may be promoted or disrupted by the use and misuse of medicines and drugs.
- In Key Stage 4 Science, they learn about the effects of solvents, alcohol, tobacco, vapes and other drugs on the functioning of the human body.
- In KS3 RSHE, the misuse and law around drugs is taught
- The value of a healthy lifestyle is reinforced via the tutor programme and additional guest speakers and awareness is raised of the current problem of the misuse of drugs in society. Students are provided with information on the types of drugs commonly used, including alcohol, vapes and tobacco; the effects of drug misuse on the individual, the family and society; the risks of drug abuse and the legal aspects of taking controlled drugs.
- Students are also provided with opportunities to develop their abilities to communicate, assert themselves, identify risks, take responsible decisions, and help others, thereby enhancing their self-esteem and competence.

The school works in partnership with parents, health and social services, the police and other external agencies to combat drug abuse to raise awareness of:

- The appearance, availability and cost of illegal drugs.
- The effects of illegal drugs and the signs to look for in young people who may misuse them.
- The situations in which young people are most at risk.
- How to communicate with young people about the misuse of drugs.
- Details of local support agencies and how they can offer support to parents.

All staff are provided with guidance on how to respond to suspected incidents involving drugs.

In developing and implementing this policy and procedures, careful consideration will be given to any adverse impact there may be on any groups based on the issues of diversity and the need to eliminate any such adverse impact. This policy has been assessed for negative impact on diversity.