



North Elmham CEVC Primary School
Stibbard All Saints CEVA Primary School
Flourish Federation




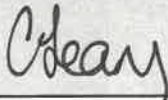
Policy: **Drugs**

Date: **July 2020**

Review: **2022**

Flourish Federation

Drugs Policy

This policy was ratified by Flourish Federation Governing Body on:	12 July 2022
This policy will be reviewed by Flourish Federation Governing Body on: (unless earlier review is required to adhere to statutory requirements/changes in procedure)	July 2024
Policy Version:	1
Policy Signed by the Chair of Governors:	
Policy signed by the Executive Head Teacher:	

Rationale

At Flourish Federation we are committed to safeguarding our whole community and will take all necessary steps to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of all our members, both children and adults to prevent drug misuse.

We acknowledge the importance of our pastoral role in the welfare of young people, and through the general ethos of the school we aim to support all pupils so that they can take their place safely in a world where a wide range of drugs exists.

We recognise that some drugs have beneficial effects, but also that every drug has potential harm. For this reason, all drugs need appropriate and responsible care and management. In order to be able to make informed choices, staff and pupils need to understand the nature of drugs, their social status, their uses and effects.

Purpose of the policy

- To maintain the safety and well-being of all pupils, staff and visitors.
- To clarify legal responsibilities, entitlements and obligations.
- To support all the members of the school community by providing clear guidance and procedures on drug related issues to ensure clarity and consistency.
- To develop a whole school approach to drug education in the context of the school curriculum, ensuring lessons are appropriate to the pupils' needs.

To whom the policy concerns

This policy concerns all staff, pupils, parents/carers, club leaders, governors, partner agencies, contractors working on site and any person hiring or visiting the school premises.

Where this policy applies

This policy applies to the school premises which includes everything within the property boundaries including buildings, outbuildings, playgrounds, fields and also extends to include other settings such as vehicles or any venue managed by the school at the time of e.g. premises of a school trip or visit. It also relates to pupils/adults using the premises and grounds beyond the school day.

Links with other school policies

This policy should be read alongside:-

- Behaviour, Safeguarding, Health and Safety and Managing Medicines policies.

Definitions and terminology

We define a drug as a substance that, when taken into the body, changes the way we feel, the way we perceive things, and the way our body works. This definition includes illegal substances

E.g. cannabis, ecstasy, ketamine, heroin, crack/cocaine, magic mushrooms, amphetamines, benzodiazepines, LSD and also legal substances such as New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) which are often referred to as legal highs, tobacco, alcohol and volatile substances (solvents and gases) and medicines.

Substances can be sniffed, snorted, swallowed, smoked or injected by people.

The school's stance on drugs, health and the needs of pupils.

The first concern in managing drugs is meeting the health and pastoral needs of individual pupils in the context of the health and safety of the school community.

It is inappropriate and unacceptable for any individual to bring substances into school,

have them on their person, consume them before, during and after school on the way to or from school (including on school visits etc.). Exceptions may be made for those who require prescription medicines where appropriate and these will be recorded as part of our Medicines procedures (see policy).

Statutory duty of the school/Key roles and responsibilities

The Head teacher and Safeguarding Leads has overall responsibility for monitoring the effectiveness of this policy and enforcing it. They are also responsible for liaising with the governing body, parents, LA and appropriate outside agencies.

They will also ensure that all staff dealing with substance issues are adequately supported and trained.

The role of governors

Our Governors state that 'The Governing Body is responsible and accountable for all major decisions about the school and its future. Governors have a legal responsibility to conduct the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement. The Governors set the schools vision and strategic aims, monitor and evaluate performance acting as a critical friend to the Head Teacher and ensure the school is accountable to those it serves. The day to day management of the school is the responsibility of the Head Teacher.'

Our Health and Safety Governor role is to ensure that the pupils and staff are learning & working in a safe environment. The governing body will be involved in drug-related incidents and be responsible for reviewing and monitoring this policy.

Drug Education

As part of being a healthy school, we encourage children to make informed choices by increasing their knowledge, exploring a range of attitudes towards drug use and developing and practising decision making skills. We take a whole school approach to drugs through-

- A planned drug education programme through PSHE and citizenship informed by pupils, staff and the Science curriculum.
- Carefully considered responses to drug-related incidents informed and supported by the views of the whole school community
- Clear rules and sanctions related to drugs
- Access to specialist support and advice, if needed
- Providing training and support for staff

Our teaching is based on national and local guidelines for good practice, including Appendix 2 of Drugs: Guidance for Schools and Norfolk Safeguarding Children Board. Our PSHE Policy also details schemes of work where drug education is included. Other opportunities include:-

- English: group discussion and interaction, information texts, literature and media
- Circle time
- Maths: handling data, including interpreting and discussing results
- ICT: finding things out, exchanging and sharing information
- Drama: exploring and developing skills through role play
- Music and Art: exploring popular culture
- Geography: economic activity
- Physical education: fitness and health
- Religious Education: exploring morals, values and cultural diversity.

All teaching is appropriate to the age and experience of our pupils. Drug issues are reinforced throughout the child's education, matching their increasing understanding and maturity.

Key Stage 1

Children should be introduced to ideas about how to keep healthy and the role of drugs as medicines.

Key Stage 2

Children should be introduced to the fact that whilst all medicines are drugs, not all drugs are medicines. They should also begin to be aware of the harmful effects on health of abuse of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs. In line with these proposals, drug education will be taught as part of the RSHE & PSHE programme and crucial crew events. This will be either within class topics or be specifically taught as and when appropriate. Children will be encouraged to:-

- explore attitudes and values around drug misuse.
- practise decision making skills.
- become aware of peer pressure.
- develop assertiveness skills.
- consider the consequences of risk taking.
- learn how to access sources of help and information.
- emphasise the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.
- evaluate media messages on drug use

Staff support and training

Teachers are confident and skilled to teach drug education. Teachers will have access to ongoing advice, support and training as part of their own professional development. The school actively cooperates with agencies such as the LA, police, health and drug agencies. We are committed to ensuring that all First Aiders are up to date on drug-related First Aid. We also include drug awareness training in the induction of all staff and governors working at the school and make the staff code of conduct explicit.

Management of drug incidents at school and on school visits

Implementation of the Policy

We deal with drug paraphernalia and suspected illegal and unauthorised drugs including searching, storage, disposal and safety guidance for staff.

A drug related incident may include any of the following:

- Finding drugs, or related items on school premises.
- Possession of drugs by an individual on school premises.
- Use of drugs by an individual on school premises.
- Supply of drugs on school premises.
- Individuals disclosing information about their drug use.
- Rumours or reports of drug possession supply or drug use.

Searching

Searching, Screening and Confiscations (DfE: 2014) states that 'school staff can search a pupil for any item if the pupil agrees' noting that the ability to give consent may be influenced by the child's age or other factors. Head teachers and staff authorised by them have a statutory power to search pupils or their possessions, without consent, where they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil may have a prohibited item. Prohibited items include alcohol and illegal drugs. The law says that the person conducting the search may not require the pupil to remove any clothing other than outer clothing. The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) recommends that drug dogs and drug testing should not be used for searches where

there is no evidence for the presence of drugs on school premises.

In cases of substance use/misuse or supply on the premises, during the school day or during school visits etc, the case will be discussed with the young person/adult and a written record taken; parents/carers of young children will be informed by the Head Teacher as soon as possible. The support of outside agencies/police will be sought if appropriate.

Medical emergencies If an individual has taken a harmful toxic substance or is otherwise at immediate risk of immediate harm (is unconscious, is having trouble breathing, is seriously confused or disoriented) medical help will be sought and first aid given if required. The priority will be the pupil's safety. Parents will be notified immediately

If a young person admits to using or supplying substances off the premises, the appropriate action will be taken by the Headteacher, who will inform the parents/carers (please refer to the school discipline policy). While there is no legal obligation to inform the police, they may also be involved at the discretion of the Headteacher in consultation with governors and staff who know the young person well. The school will consider each incident individually and will employ a range of responses to deal with each incident. All staff, pupils, parents/carers will be informed of these issues.

The Headteacher will take responsibility for liaison with the media, where required. Additional support and advice is available from the School Drugs Adviser and LA Communication Officer Education.

All staff, parents/carers and young people will be reminded of this policy, and its procedures, on a regular basis via staff meetings, newsletters, and healthy lifestyle events.