

THE CANONS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Drugs Education Policy 2025

Signed Head Teacher

Signed Chair of Governors

Dated April 2025

Review March 2028

Introduction

STATEMENT OF POLICY ON SUBSTANCE USE AND MISUSE

For the purpose of this policy, the term “drugs” means all legal and illegal mood-altering and/or addictive substances including alcohol, cigarettes and solvents (Please see Appendix 1 for further definitions of terms)

- The school condones neither the misuse of drugs or procurement by members of school, nor the illegal supply of these substances.
- The school is committed to the health and safety of its members and will take action to safeguard their wellbeing.
- The school acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of young people, and through the general ethos of the school, will seek to support pupil, where necessary.

Aims and objectives

- We aim to equip children with the knowledge, understanding and skills that enable them to make choices which 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 teach children about the dangers posed by drug-taking (including medicines), and we aim to equip them with the social skills that enable them to make informed moral and social decisions in relation to drugs in society.
- The objectives of our drugs education programme are:

Increasing knowledge, changing attitudes and enhancing skills

- To provide opportunities for pupils to acquire knowledge and understanding about the dangers of drug misuse, what they should do if they come across drugs or are aware of other people misusing drugs.
- To provide accurate information about substances.
- To provide opportunities for pupils to be equipped with the knowledge, attitudes and skills they need to avoid the misuse of drugs and make informed choices in the future.
- To ensure that all children are taught about drugs in a consistent manner, following guidelines that have been agreed by parents, governors and staff.

Behaviour

- To minimise the number of young people who ever engage in drug misuse.
- To persuade those who are experimenting with or misusing drugs to stop.
- To enable our pupils to obtain appropriate support

Citizenship

- To increase knowledge of social and personal issues relating to drugs in line with the National Curriculum.
- To enhance young people's capacity to contribute to school policies on drugs misuse and wider community matters.
- To enhance young people's decision-making skills more generally, using drug education as a vehicle.

Organisation

Curriculum

Re-visiting **Key Stage 1** curriculum focuses on medicines and how to be safe, being ill and getting better, being safe with household substances and risks.

The **Key Stage 2** curriculum focuses on effects and risks of smoking and alcohol, resisting pressure to do wrong and making safe decisions.

The Drugs Education curriculum is designed so as to be progressive KS2. It is not intended to be taught in isolation, but be firmly rooted in our PSHE and Citizenship programme, supplemented by Science and taught through the wider curriculum. The teaching style will encourage pupils to ask questions and explore issues.

National Healthy Schools Standard

As participants in this scheme we will:

- consult with parents on all matters of health education policy
- listen to views of children in our school regarding drug education
- look positively at any local initiatives that support us in providing the best drug education teaching programme that we can devise.

Management and Delivery

- The PSHE co-ordinator, in liaison with the head teacher and other teaching staff, will be responsible for planning of the Drugs Education curriculum.
- The Drugs Education Curriculum will be delivered to all Year groups by their class teacher.
- There are a number of resources within school to facilitate the teaching of the Drugs Education programme. In addition to this, the school makes use of visits from outside agencies and the school nurse.
- Training for the teaching of the Drugs Education curriculum is provided as and when necessary.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

Our Drugs Education programme will be carried out with all children, regardless of race, gender or culture, and for those whose first language is not English, access will be provided. All children with SEN will have the entitlement to a similar programme of Drugs Education as do their peers.

The role of the Head teacher

It is the responsibility of the headteacher to ensure that all members of staff and parents are informed about this drugs education policy, and the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the head teacher's role to ensure that any staff are given sufficient training, so they can effectively deal with any difficult issues sensitively.

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 policy and work within its framework.

The head teacher will monitor the policy on a regular basis and report to Governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

The role of Governors

The governing body has the responsibility of implementing and monitoring these general guidelines on drugs education. The Governors will support the Head teacher in following these guidelines.

Specific Issues

Management of Incidents in School

Reporting a drug-related incident

All drug-related incidents are reported to the Head teacher/Child protection officer

If a child is found with illegal drugs, parents will be informed and the police contacted.

If parents are partaking in illegal drugs the head teacher would use her discretion to discuss this with the police.

Recording the drug-related incident

All drug-related incidents will be recorded in the drug incident book.

Working with Parents & Carers

The school is aware that the primary role in drugs education lies with parents. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation. In promoting this we will:

- The school will need the support and encouragement of parents in their efforts in drug prevention, and education. We welcome parental input in the reviewing the drugs education policy.
- Invite parents to view teaching materials.
- Answer any questions parents may have about drugs education their child receives in school.
- Inform parents about the best practise known with regard to drugs education so they can support the key messages being given to children at school.
- Parents/ carers will be informed in the event of their child becoming involved in a drugs related incident.
- Encourage parents to be involved in reviewing the policy and making modifications if necessary.

Monitoring and reviewing

The curriculum committee of the governing body will monitor the drugs education policy on an annual basis. This committee will report their findings to the full governing body as necessary. The curriculum committee takes into serious account any recommendations from parents about drugs education programme and comments will be recorded. Governors require the head teacher to keep a written record detailing the content and delivery about the drug education programme taught in the school.

Disclosure

Please refer to the Child Protection Policy for guidelines.

Smoking

In accordance with National law, this is a no smoking school and smoking is prohibited anywhere on the premises.

Alcohol

Alcohol is sometimes permitted on the school premises (with permission from the Head Teacher) during social events, for example, cheese & wine evenings. Non-alcoholic drinks will always be available during such events.

Administration of Medicines

Please see separate policy about administrations of medicines.

Signed by the Headteacher

Chair of Governors