



ST ALBAN'S CE (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Inspired to make a difference in God's world with excellence and love"

DRUGS EDUCATION AND DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS

DOCUMENT INFORMATION			
Reviewed by:	Standards Committee		
Last Review:	May 2023	Next Review:	May 2026
Review Cycle:	3 yearly		

1. **Introduction**

St Alban's school is committed to the health and safety of its pupils and will take action to safeguard their well being. The Governors, Headteacher and Staff at this school have come to the policy's aims jointly and support the values implicit in them. 'DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools' September 2012 has been used to guide this policy (the most recent DfE document).

2. **Aims**

The aim of this policy is to acknowledge and clarify the school's role in drug prevention and education and to ensure it is appropriate to pupils' needs. The policy provides information and guidance about drug education as well as procedures to respond to any drug-related incident, for pupils, teachers, support staff and outside agencies or individuals.

The policy aims to ensure that the approach taken on the issue of drugs is a whole-school one and is part of our commitment to and concern for the health and well-being of the whole school community. Teachers will need to be confident and skilled to teach drug education and pupils need to receive up to date, relevant and accurate information as well as support.

This policy aims to make clear procedures for responding to and managing drug-related incidents. Sanctions for incidents will be consistent with the school's Behaviour Policy and incidents and concerns will be dealt with in line with the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding policies. This policy applies at all times to the school premises, school transport as well as school visits, trips and residential stays etc.

3. **Rationale**

This policy covers all drugs and should be read in conjunction with our Health and Safety Policy on the Administration of Medicines at School, our Behaviour Policy, Child Protection and Safeguarding policies. Where this document refers to drugs, this includes alcohol, tobacco/vapes, illegal drugs, medicines, novel psychoactive substances ("legal highs") and volatile substances, unless otherwise specified. Our policy and school curriculum covers both illegal and legal drugs as well as solvents that can be sniffed and other household materials and cleaning agents which are poisonous. It covers substances that may not be classified as a drug but are believed to be drugs by those who may take or supply them.

4. **Drug Education**

The school provides a planned drug education curriculum through the PSHE curriculum which draws on aspects of the Hampshire Local Authority PSHE curriculum, supplemented by relevant aspects of the National Curriculum for Science.

This curriculum will:

- Enable pupils to make healthy, informed choices
- Promote positive attitudes to healthy lifestyles
- Provide accurate information about substances
- Increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse
- Widen understanding about related health and social issues
- Enable young people to identify sources of appropriate advice and personal support
- Provide strategies for dealing with peer pressure

5. **Staff Development**

On the whole, it will be teachers who will teach drug education but, where appropriate outside visitors may be used to support learning. Visitors will be used in a planned way and their contributions will be evaluated for future purposes. If, at any time, the school consider it necessary to call upon outside visitors and knowledge from professionals, they will work alongside the school and be made aware of the Drug Education policy. They will be expected to strictly abide by the policy and instruction from the Headteacher, including any use of resources. All resources used will be pre-approved by the Headteacher.

All staff are aware of the need to:

- Understand and support the rationale and aims of drugs education.
- Know the legal implications of their professional responsibilities.

There will be opportunities for staff training to ensure that this is done.

The Headteacher and the Personal, Health and Social Education (PHSE) Manager and all members of staff have responsibility for the effective application of this policy.

6. **Statutory Duty of the School**

The Headteacher takes overall responsibility for the policy and implementation and for the liaison with the Governing body, parents, LEA and appropriate outside agencies. The PSHE Manager will have the responsibility for ensuring the inclusion of drugs education within the PSHE curriculum and that it is regularly monitored. The Headteacher will ensure that all staff dealing the substance issues are adequately supported and trained.

Any contact with the media will be handled by the Headteacher in consultation with the Local Authority.

A school cannot knowingly allow its premises to be used for the production or supply of any controlled drug (eg the preparation of, or smoking of cannabis). Where it is suspected that substances are being sold on the premises, details regarding those involved, as well as relevant information, will be passed to the police.

7. **Implementation of the Policy**

Incidents involving substance misuse or supply on the premises during the school day and following discussion with the pupil and staff, action will proceed as follows.

- Any medical emergencies will be dealt with as per the school's first aid policy
- The school will consider each incident individually and will employ a range of responses to deal with each incident, in line with the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding policies and the Behaviour Policy.
- 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 and a written record taken parents/carers will be informed by the Headteacher unless it is necessary to implement Child Protection procedures as soon as possible. The support of outside agencies will be sought if appropriate in order to safeguard the young person and any others affected.
- The Governing Body will be involved where appropriate with drug related incidents in line with policies and procedures as laid out.
- 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.
- 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 and other agencies as appropriate in order to safeguard the young person and any others affected.

The storage and administration of medicinal drugs is the responsibility of the Headteacher and Senior Administrative Officer. Please refer to the Policy for Administration of Medicines at School.