

John Ruskin Primary School and Language Classes

# Drug Education Policy

Co-ordinator: Hannah Cane

Last review: Sept 2023

Next review: 2026



*"Be Responsible, be fair, stay positive and care"*

## **John Ruskin Primary School and Language Classes Drug Education Policy**

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Date reviewed: 2023

This policy has been developed by the PSHE co-ordinator and was approved by staff and governors. It is reviewed and updated every three years.

### Aims

The aims of drug education are:

- to provide pupils with the opportunities to acquire knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes to make informed choices and decisions about their own drug use.
- to compliment the positive school ethos which helps pupils feel valued as part of the community and to increase self esteem which may help pupils cope better in situations involving drugs.
- to equip pupils with the skills to deal with drug related incidents that may encounter.
- to provide pupils with clear guidelines for drug related incidents in school.

### Teaching and learning of drug education

Drug education is taught predominantly in PSHE & wellbeing lessons and science lessons. Teachers follow the PSHE and wellbeing and science curriculum. There are other opportunities to reinforce learning by external agencies such as school nurse and specialist drug education agencies. Children will be provided with information that is age appropriate and relevant to their needs.

Drug education is delivered with in a safe, secure and supportive learning environment. It is taught using a variety of teaching methods.

### Monitoring and evaluation

The PSHE coordinator and science coordinator are responsible for the overall monitoring of drug education. This can include subject monitoring with feedback given to teachers.

Assessments will be made and lessons evaluated in line with assessment policy.

### Responding to drug related incidents

The health and safety of the pupils should be paramount in response to all incidents. Emergency services will be contacted immediately.

The following procedures will take place as and required:

- any concerns of the staff or other pupils will be referred to a member of the senior management team.
- all major incidents will be recorded on a confidential action sheet.
- parents/carers will be contacted as appropriate in context of child protection.
- staff are not to touch any drug related equipment or illegal substances found on the school site, it should be handed to the police. Other agencies will be contacted as appropriate.
- any questioning of a pupil must take place with two members of staff, including a senior manager. Any search of pupil's belongings must be agreed by the pupils. A body search cannot be carried out by members of staff.
- legal substances brought into school will be removed, incident reported and parents contacted.
- first aid procedures will apply in an emergency.
- if a parent/carer appears unable to look after a pupil due to the influence of drugs, Child Protection procedures will be followed.
- issues should be dealt with sensitively in a non judgemental manner.

#### Alcohol and tobacco policy

Smoking is not allowed within the school building or playground area. Smoking is allowed in a designated area, out of sight of the pupils. Parents are not allowed to smoke on the premises. Alcohol is not consumed on the premises except for special occasions.

#### Confidentiality

An environment of support will be provided for all pupils in our school to discuss drug related issues. The children also have access to the Chat Zone to discuss any problems.

Teachers cannot and should not promise total confidentiality and the boundaries of confidentiality should be made clear to the pupils.

