

PADNELL INFANT SCHOOL

BOARD OF GOVERNORS



DRUG ISSUES POLICY

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| Name of Unit/Premises/Centre/School | Padnell Infant School |
| Date of Policy Review | December 2021 |
| Date of Next Review | December 2023 |
| Name of Headteacher | Mrs Mandy Grayson |

Administration Record

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1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 Padnell Infant School is committed to the health and safety of all its members and will take action to safeguard their well-being. We value the importance of the family unit and will support all members in their awareness of drugs and their misuse.
- 1.1.2 In the context of this policy the term "drug" is used to include:
- a. Illegal substances;
 - b. Legal highs (psychoactive substances act 2016);
 - c. Substances which are legal but can be misused.
- 1.1.3 Note - Some of these substances would not be acceptable for possession on school premises e.g. alcohol and tobacco. Other substances e.g. glue, solvents, over the counter and prescribed medicines would be acceptable for possession and use on school premises, provided this is for their proper intended purpose.
- 1.1.4 We recognise that adults are role models and we commit ourselves to:
- a. Setting an example to our pupils;
 - b. Keeping a smoke-free environment;
 - c. Involving and informing parents of our work;
 - d. Avoiding the use of over the counter medicines in front of the children.
- 1.1.5 This policy covers deliberate and accidental possession and use of drugs and other substances

2 Education

2.1 Rationale

- 2.1.1 To make children aware they have choices and help them make informed decisions.

2.2 Aims

- a. To develop health education especially relating to what goes onto and into the body:
 - i) *Know that all medicines are drugs but not all drugs are medicines;*

- ii) *Know that all substances can be harmful if not used properly;*
 - iii) *Know about different types of medicine and that some people need them to live a normal life;*
 - iv) *Know and understand simple safety rules about medicines, tablets, solvents and household substances.*
- b. To help children to be able to resist pressures from adults and peers with regard to drug issues.
 - c. To explore attitudes to drug use.
 - d. To acquire accurate information with respect to drugs

3 Managing drug related incidents in school

3.1 "In School"

- 3.1.1 This policy applies to all members of the school community on the school premises, including all buildings and grounds as well as all off-site visits. It will also apply to use of the school's facilities and grounds by the community out of school hours.

3.2 Records

- 3.2.1 Records will be kept on CPOM where incidents can be recorded under the individual child's name. This will remain on the child's file for the duration of their time with us and may if appropriate be transferred to their next school using this secure system.

3.3 Suspicious behaviour

- 3.3.1 A change of behaviour will be reported to the Designated Safeguard Lead or the Deputy logged on CPOM. In this way patterns of behaviour may become apparent.

3.4 Finding substances

- 3.4.1 If a substance is discovered which is suspected of being harmful, illegal or in need of investigation it will be removed to a place of safe keeping **IN THE PRESENCE OF A WITNESS** and the above procedure followed.

3.4.2 In either case the following information should be recorded on CPOM:

- a. date and time of retrieval;
- b. size and appearance of substance;
- c. the names of those concerned;
- d. action taken.

3.4.3 The pupil's parents should be informed of the action taken.

3.4.4 School will seek the advice of health professionals if appropriate and refer to any relevant support available if necessary.

3.5 Finding paraphernalia

3.5.1 If any equipment, gear or paraphernalia associated with drugs misuse is discovered, the items should be handled with care. The incident will be recorded as above and the items confiscated. Needles and syringes will be placed in a rigid and secure container for collection by the appropriate service.

3.6 Searching

3.6.1 Storage areas including drawers remain the property of the school. The Headteacher may authorise a search of these when there is reasonable cause to suspect the presence of prohibited items. This search must be **IN THE PRESENCE OF A WITNESS** and the pupil concerned.

3.7 Finding drug misuse

3.7.1 If a pupil is found in possession of a substance suspected of being illegal, the police will be informed. If a pupil is found to be in possession of tobacco, alcohol, glue, solvents, prescribed or over the counter medicines:

- a. Parents will be informed;
- b. Locality Team will be contacted if this seems appropriate.

3.7.2 In an emergency arising from a drug related incident, the well-being of the pupil is paramount. In all instances:

- a. The pupil will be separated from the rest of the group;
- b. School will seek the advice of health professionals if appropriate and refer to any relevant support available if necessary

- c. The next step in terms of the pupil's welfare will be decided. If this is a child protection issue, we will follow the Child Protection Procedures.