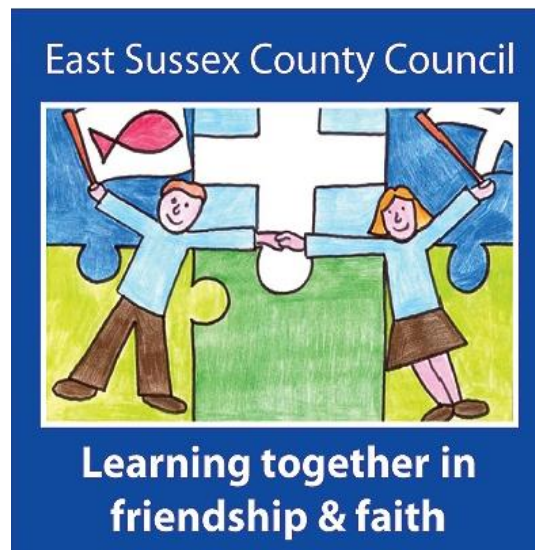


# St Andrew's C.E Infants' School



# Drugs policy

**Reviewed September 2025**

To be reviewed September 2026

## **AIMS**

The aim of the St. Andrew's C.E. Infants' School Drugs Policy, is to develop a consistent whole-school approach to the following issues.

- (a) Handling a range of incidents relating to drugs.
- (b) The delivery of a progressive and meaningful scheme which meets the requirements of the children and of National Curriculum at Key Stages 1.
- (c) Creating a safe environment within the school.

This will require the exchange of information between staff, pupils, parents, governors and outside parties/agencies.

Drugs education will be delivered within the school's PHSE programme to enable children to develop strategies (and informed attitudes) relating to the use and misuse of drugs. Where appropriate, local outside agencies may be involved to ensure that any legal requirements are fulfilled.

A drug is defined as any substance which when taken into the body affects the chemical composition and how the body functions.

Our school operates a **smoke / vape free site** and takes the matter of illegal drugs very seriously as part of our Healthy Schools programme. We are aware of the country's increasing problem of drug misuse. We are committed to working with parents and will ensure that parents are informed about their children's drug education.

## **Substance and Drug Education Curriculum**

We as a school have a statutory responsibility to provide a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and prepares pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

St. Andrew's will deliver their Policy through the science and their PSHE and statutory Science education.

The specific aims of drug education should match the age, maturity and experience of the young people involved, but underpinning all of them will be an understanding of the physical,

psychological, social and legal aspects of drug use and misuse. In order to achieve these aims the following objectives should be considered:

- To allow young people to gain a real understanding of how their bodies function and how drug use can affect that functioning, risk to health.
- To enable young people to gain an understanding of the role of drugs in society. To get an understanding of what is safe and appropriate drug use.
- To enable young people to develop positive attitudes towards personal health and safety and keeping self safe.
- To enable young people to develop techniques for avoiding and resisting pressure and exploitation.
- To enable the development of communication skills with peers and adults, decision making skills and negotiation skills and knowing where to go for help.
- To enable the development of assertiveness and an understanding that they have rights over their own bodies.
- To enhance self awareness and self esteem.
- To examine own opinions and values.
- To value and respect self and others and to value diversity and difference within society.
- To be able to talk, listen and think about feelings and relationships and to make choices.

The PSHE coordinator plans the drug curriculum through a scheme of work for PSHE, monitors its delivery, assesses and reports to parents.

We deliver drug education both through discrete, planned lessons as well as through cross curricular teaching.

A variety of teaching and learning approaches are used in PSHE with carefully selected teaching materials together with active learning approaches such as role play, small group work and problem solving. Ground rules are established for a safe, secure and supported learning environment.

### **Knowledge & Understanding**

1. The School's policy relating to medicine;

2. Provide basic information about how the body works and ways of looking after the body (Year FS/Year1)
3. The role medicines play (both prescribed and over the counter) in promoting health and reasons people use them; (Year 2)
4. That all drugs can be harmful if not used correctly; (Year 2)
5. Simple safety rules about medicines and other substances used in the home, including solvents; (Year 2)
6. The general effects of alcohol and tobacco on the body and behaviour n/a
7. People who are involved with medicines (e.g. health professionals, pharmacists, shop keepers);
8. People who can help children when they have questions of concerns.

We welcome the involvement of external agencies to support the delivery by teaching staff. All visitors are informed about the school's drug education policy and scheme of work for PSHE.

### **Confidentiality and child protection**

Confidentiality is an important consideration and is to be respected as far as possible.

**Teachers cannot and should not promise total confidentiality.**

Teachers have a professional responsibility and if a child discloses sensitive information it may become necessary to invoke child protection procedures if they feel a child is under threat. Relevant examples may include a disclosure of illegal drug use, or problematic substance abuse at home.

### **Drug related incidents**

A drug related incident is one where there is suspicion, disclosure or observation of the use of unauthorised drugs or the discovery of unauthorized drugs. We do not allow anyone to possess, produce, supply or offer illegal drugs on the premises in accordance with the misuse of drugs act 1971. No Head should allow anyone to possess, produce, supply or offer illegal drugs on their premises.

Knowingly permitting these activities is unlawful under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971. Any suspected illegal drugs found or confiscated on the premises will be disposed of appropriately.

The designated senior member of staff for drug related incidents is Phil Crossinggum. (Health and safety coordinator.)

Drug related incidents include:-

- Possession and misuse of substances (legal and illegal) by children, parents and staff on school premises

- Misuse of the medication/health and safety policy
- The discovery of drug related debris
- The disclosure of drug misuse outside the school premises by pupils or others

Any tobacco, alcohol, solvents or illegal substance+ new psycho active substances found on a child will be confiscated and parents informed. More serious disciplinary consequences will be considered such as informing police and/or child protection procedures dependant on personal circumstances.

**A personal search can only be carried out by a police officer or parent/carer.**

**The school has the power, with police assistance if necessary to remove anyone from the site who is causing a nuisance or disturbance. This includes being intoxicated. Those refusing to leave can be prosecuted under Section 40 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.**

The safety of pupils during the journey to and from school is important. If staff have concerns over the safety of a pupil due to parent/ carer intoxication then discussion will be held with the adult and consideration given to moving the pupil to a safer environment and/or alternative means of travel home. Police and children's services may also be informed.

**If staff have any suspicions that a pupil is intoxicated from inhaling / swallowing a volatile substance emergency procedures need to be carried out (first aider/ambulance).**

### **General**

It is possible for a prosecution to be brought under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 if an individual has not taken due care of themselves and others in the workplace. In most cases a common sense approach which leads to the speedy removal of anyone who is known to be under the influence of drugs, solvents or alcohol from an area where they risk injury to themselves or others because of their condition, will help to avoid a prosecution.

## **Health and safety and medicines**

(See also Health and safety policy)

The safety of the individual and all others on the school site are the most important concern when a pupil, visitor or member of staff is thought to be intoxicated, or under the influence of any drug or substance which adversely affects their judgement. Responding consistently within our stated health and safety procedures, including, where necessary the administration of first aid.

Should any drug related paraphernalia be found on the premises it is the Head teacher's responsibility to hand them over the police, or to destroy them immediately. Whenever practicable, therefore, the best course of action would be to consult with the Community Crime Prevention Supervisor prior to destruction of the substance. A written record will be kept of suspicious paraphernalia. Pupils will be advised not to touch suspect items but refer to a member of staff. The member of staff will ensure that safety is maintained until disposal of the item (s) is undertaken.

Solvents or hazardous chemicals legitimately used carefully by staff are stored securely and managed in a way to prevent unauthorised access.

The approach to medication access and administration is set out in the school's medicine policy. The principles underlying this are

- Recognising individual needs and to promote inclusion to provide an education for all pupils supporting their medical needs
- Undertake to contact parents /carers if a pupil is ill during the school day.
- The school provides a safe storage place for medicines
- Staff only administer medicines with parental consent

## **Educational trips**

The school trip is regarded as an extension of school life and, therefore the school's drug policy still applies (I.e. no smoking, vaping or consumption of alcohol). This applies to teachers, support staff and parents, whilst on duty and in front of children. All should be reminded of this prior to the trip and referred to policy of any difficulties. Adults should keep any personal medication safe and a nominated first aider responsible for storage and administration of medicines.

## **School social events**

At all social events organised by the school the responsibility for the conduct of the children present remains with the parents. At such events the school's No smoking policy will be enforced. The school does not condone the use of illegal substances by any

individual during school social activities and adults at designated school functions, subject to compliance with licensing law and within reasonable limits may consume alcohol.

### **Staff matters**

All staff are expected to work within the agreed policy and their own professional and employment terms and conditions. Training will be given on basic awareness of drugs, emergency procedures, procedures in the event of an incident, confidentiality and the drug education teaching programme within PSHE and citizenship lessons.

### **Statement for equality of opportunity**

In accordance with the policy provision will be made to meet the needs of all children regardless of race, religion, gender, disabilities, sexual orientation and age. This will be done through planning and providing the relevant resources to ensure the curriculum is fully accessible to all children.

### **Implementation, monitoring and review of Policy**

Implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the Head and governors. Ben West will act as link governor for drug education and other aspects. Opportunities will be made to inform parents about their children's drug education.

**Reviewed : Sept 2024**

## Curriculum Guidance

Extracts from National Curriculum  
Science Key Stage 1  
Life Processes and Living Things

Drug Education:  
Curriculum Guidance for Schools  
Key Stage 1

Pupils should be taught:

### **1. Humans as organisms**

- a) to name the main external parts, e.g. hand, elbow, knee, of the human body including external sexual parts
- b) that humans need food and water to stay alive.
- c) that taking exercise and eating the right types and amount of food help humans to keep healthy.
- d) about the role of drugs as medicines.
- e) that humans can produce babies and these babies grow into children and then into adults.
- f) that humans have senses which enable them to be aware of the world around them.

### **Knowledge and understanding**

- \* School rules relating to medicines.
- \* Basic information about how the body works and ways of looking after the body.
- \* The role of medicines (both prescribed and over the counter) in promoting health and the reasons people use them.
- \* Understanding that all drugs can be harmful if not used properly.
- \* Simple safety rules about medicines and other substances used in the home, including solvents.
- \* Consideration of alcohol and tobacco, their general effects on the body and on behaviour.
- \* People who are involved with medicines (such as health professionals, pharmacists, shopkeepers).
- \* People who can help children when they have questions or concerns.

### **Skills**

- \* Communicate feelings such as concerns about illness and taking medicines.
- \* Following simple safety instructions.

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| * When and how to get help from adults.                                               |
| <b>Attitudes</b>                                                                      |
| * Valuing one's body and recognising and recognising its uniqueness.                  |
| * Attitudes towards medicines, health professionals and hospitals                     |
| * Attitudes towards the use of alcohol and cigarettes.                                |
| * Responses to media and advertising presentations of medicines, alcohol and smoking. |

### Guidelines for drug related incidents

| What to do if ..                                                   | Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Regulations                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Other considerations                                                                                                                                                      |
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| 1. Drugs or drug-taking gear are discovered on the school premises | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Remove substance and store securely with witness as evidence</li> <li>* Record what/when/ who/ where</li> <li>* Try to identify the substance - you may wish to seek police advice N.B. do not taste anything</li> <li>* Dispose of the substance</li> <li>* Inform L.E.A. adviser/ Education Officer/schools</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* It is illegal to search a pupil</li> <li>* It is against the law knowingly to allow premises to be used for production/ consumption/ dealing of some substances</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Decide if/when/how parents/ carers are to be informed</li> <li>* Decide how/when to tell staff/pupils and who to tell</li> </ul> |
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| <p>2. A pupil is found in possession of drugs/solvents</p>                                                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Confiscate substance and store securely with witness as evidence</li> <li>* Record what/when/who / where</li> <li>* Inform Head Teacher</li> <li>* Dispose of the substance - either yourself (be sure to have a witness and keep a record) or you may wish to contact police</li> <li>* Inform L.E.A. adviser/ Education Officer</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Schools have in <i>loco parentis</i> responsibilities</li> <li>* It is illegal to search pupils</li> </ul>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Decide if/when/who - parents/carers are to be informed:</li> <li>- what sanctions (if any) will be imposed</li> <li>- assess whether this is a one-off incident or there is a problem of drug use; consider counselling (internal or external)</li> <li>- are there pupil/family welfare issues or are they selling/ dealing</li> <li>- do the EWO's/social workers need to be involved</li> <li>- decide how/when to tell staff/ pupils and who to tell</li> </ul> |
| <p>3. A member of staff</p> <p>a) suspects or</p> <p>b) has evidence of a pupil being under the influence of drugs</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Follow first aid procedures if necessary</li> <li>* Inform Head Teacher</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Schools have in <i>loco parentis</i> responsibilities</li> <li>* Follow child protection guidelines</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Are the child protection issues involved?</li> <li>* Decide if/when and how parents/carers are to be informed</li> <li>* Decide which/how/when to tell staff/pupils</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| 4. A pupil discloses parents/ carer/ relatives / friends are misusing/ selling drugs/ solvents | * Inform Head Teacher | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Follow child protection guidelines - schools have in <i>loco parentis</i> responsibilities</li> <li>* There is no legal obligation to inform anyone</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Are there child protection issues involved</li> <li>* Decide if/when and how parents/carers are to be informed</li> <li>* Are there pupil/family welfare issues?</li> <li>* Is there a need for external support agencies to be involved?</li> <li>* What is the procedure for disclosures?</li> <li>* Decide which/how/when to tell staff/pupils</li> <li>* How will the pupil be supported - by whom - internal/external?</li> </ul> |
| 5. A pupil discloses that they are using drugs/ solvents                                       | * Inform Head Teacher | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Follow child protection guidelines</li> <li>* No legal obligation to inform anyone</li> <li>* Schools have in <i>loco parentis</i> responsibilities</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Are there child protection issues?</li> <li>* Decide if/when and how parents/carers are to be informed</li> <li>* Decide how/when to tell staff/pupils and who to tell</li> <li>* Is there a need for support from an outside agency (for staff and pupils)?</li> <li>* Decide what risk is involved and to whom</li> </ul>                                                                                                            |
| <b>What to do if ..</b>                                                                        | <b>Action</b>         | <b>Regulations</b>                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Other considerations</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6. School becomes aware of the availability/ sale of drugs/ solvents in the school vicinity    |                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* No legal obligation to inform anyone</li> </ul>                                                                                                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The school may decide to inform the police/seek advice</li> <li>* Ditto Trading Standards Officer</li> <li>* Consider the school rules regarding leaving school premises during school time</li> <li>* Decide if/when and how parents/carers are to be informed</li> <li>* Decide which/how/when to tell staff/ pupils</li> </ul>                                                                                                      |
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| 7. A parent/ carer comes to you for advice about their child who may be/ is using drugs/ solvents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Establish cause for concern</li> <li>* Offer support</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* There is no obligation under law to do/ tell anyone</li> <li>* If they are telling you that your premises are being used you cannot allow that activity to continue (Premises Act)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Consider referral</li> </ul> |
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