



Founded 1904
Registered Charity No 528912

Drugs Policy

Rights Respecting Schools Award

Article 19 - Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of abuse, neglect and bad treatment from their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

Article 28 - Every child has a right to an education.

Article 23 - Governments must protect children from the illegal use of drugs and from being involved in the production or distribution of drugs.

Rationale

Drug misuse is a major threat to individuals, families and the wider community. Drug education enables pupils to make healthy informed choices.

Purpose

- To clarify the school's approach to drugs, for staff, the management committee, pupils, parents or carers, and to clarify the legal requirements and responsibilities;
- give guidance to staff on the school's drugs education programme;
- safeguard the health and safety of children and staff in our school;
- enable staff to manage drug-related incidents properly.
- To contribute towards the "Every Child Matters" agenda and in particular the stated outcome of "be healthy" by improving the capacity of young people to make informed choices.

Policy Development

- This policy was written in consultation with staff, management committee members and parents.
- At Selly Oak Nursery School we want our children to:
- Know who can help them
- Know that medicines and household substances can be harmful
- Know that medicines can help people who need them
- Know not to take medicine without adult supervision
- Understand what is right and wrong and why
- Show curiosity about why things happen and how things work
- Show some understanding that good practices with regard to exercise, eating, sleeping and hygiene can contribute to good health .

Attitudes

We aim to extend the child's knowledge of themselves and the world they live in, by providing a caring, secure and supportive environment. We hope that children will make informed choices as a result of this policy.

Content

- Each child will have access to drug education, regardless of gender, ability or race. Access will be matched to the particular needs of this stage of development.

Planning

At Selly Oak Nursery School a cross curricular approach will be taken to drug education and there are a range of opportunities for teaching and knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes required. The main opportunities are in Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Understanding the World . The work may be covered as part of a general Health Education topic but should run through all areas of learning.

- At Selly Oak Nursery School we teach our children how to:-
- Recognise danger and who can help
- Feel safe and secure and demonstrate a sense of trust
- Feel safe and secure within healthy relationships with key people
- Express their feelings within warm, mutual, affirmative relationships
- Begin to recognise danger and know who to turn to for help
- Express needs and feelings in appropriate ways
- Value and contribute to own well-being and self control
- Be aware that some actions can hurt or harm others
- Build up confidence and the ability to stand up for own rights
- Develop self awareness and self esteem

Other adults

All adults involved in the school are bound by school policy. Outside speakers i.e. police, nurse and social workers may be asked to address drug issues and drug abuse.

Parents/Carers

Selly Oak Nursery School will encourage parents to support their efforts on drug awareness and prevention. Parents will be invited to discuss concerns and share this policy about the teaching of drug awareness.

Staff training

All staff will be made aware of the opportunities for training or INSET offered by the Health Education Unit.

Managing Drug Related Incidents

At Selly Oak Nursery School we do not condone the misuse of drugs, including alcohol. We are committed to tackling drug misuse and that any instances or possession, use or supply of illegal drugs on school premises will be regarded with the utmost seriousness. This policy applies to everyone in setting, including staff, parents and visitors and out of school activities eg residential visits.

Our Guiding Principles are:-

- ◆ The safety and welfare of all children and staff
- ◆ The welfare of individuals deemed to be at risk
- ◆ The law concerning drugs

The school site is a no smoking environment, indoors and out.

- ◆ Alcohol and tobacco are only allowed on school premises in the possession of adults
- ◆ Alcohol is only permitted to be drunk by staff at school on social occasions, when no children are on the premises
- ◆ Children are not allowed to be in possession of, or use, tobacco, matches, lighters, or any illegal drug at any time.
- ◆ If any child is found in possession of an unauthorised drug, the substance will be confiscated in the presence of a witness and put in the office safe.
- ◆ A record of the incident will be kept. These are kept in a lockable filing cabinet
- ◆ The head teacher will be informed and will take the lead role in deciding how to respond further
- ◆ We will contact the Health Education Service (0121 303 8200) to inform them and to seek advice. No member of staff should make comments to the media
- ◆ Parents/carers will normally be informed. At Selly Oak Nursery School any incident will be reported to the Child Protection team
- ◆ No member of staff should attempt to analyse or taste an unidentified substance
- ◆ If any child is thought to be "under the influence" medical help will be sought at once and first aid given if required. This is not an appropriate time to question the child. The priority will be the child's safety
- ◆ Many of the staff are trained and qualified in First Aid which is regularly updated. Information lists of the first aiders are kept in both offices and in the staffroom ensuring everyone knows who is a First Aider.
- ◆ First Aiders are also listed on the Single Central Record which is kept updated.

Other issues the setting will need to consider

If a member of staff is thought to be "under the influence" they will be sent home immediately. A meeting will be arranged with the Head Teacher as soon as possible.

If a Parent or Carer comes to collect a child whilst "under the influence" they will be escorted to the staff room by the Head Teacher/Deputy Head Teacher. A phone call be made to next of kin to arrange collection of the adult/child.

This policy has been issued to and acknowledged by all staff. It will be reviewed annually or as circumstances or government directives direct.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the Drugs Policy included in the Healthy Schools Award folder.

Signed: (Chair of the Governing Body)

Date

Review date