

CHULMLEIGH ACADEMY TRUST

DRUG POLICY AND DRUG EDUCATION POLICY

Approved by Directors: 13th November 2019

Chulmleigh Academy Trust

Drug Policy and Drug Education Policy

Drugs Policy

Rationale

In the light of current evidence that young people's drug use is increasing, and shared concerns at local and national level, we wish to state that as part of its care for the welfare of its students, we believe that it has the duty to inform and educate young people on the consequences of drug use and misuse.

Our schools will take a pro-active stance on this matter, believing that health education is a vital part of the personal and social education of every student.

Aims

This policy will help to:

- Provide a secure framework within which the staff can operate with confidence
- Clarify legal responsibilities, entitlement and obligations
- Express and clarify a schools attitude and responses for staff and students, parents and directors

Definition of a 'drug'

Drugs in the context of this policy include:

- Drugs which are controlled/illegal substances
- Prescribed drugs which are improperly used
- Drugs which interfere with a student's ability to learn (for example alcohol, solvents)
- Drugs which have a harmful effect on pupil health (for example tobacco)
- Drugs which are misused to enhance performance (for example analgesics or steroids)

Procedures

The Trust has named members of staff who are responsible for the Drug education provision (Neil Payne) with a lead teacher responsible for coordinating drugs education within the PHSE programme of study. (Amy Eaton).

The Trust has a planned Drug Education programme involving development of skills, and identifies learning outcomes appropriate to the student's age, ability and level of maturity.

Staff should understand the role that drugs education can play in the national drug strategy and are confident in discussing drug issues with students. Teachers should have a basic knowledge of drugs and local drug services.

The Trust works with parents, the police and YSMART (Drugs Service) in order to develop its understanding of local issues.

Students should have access to appropriate advice and support agencies. This service is accessed via a referral to the school nurse. The school nurse provide support for members of the school community who are experiencing drug problems.

Staff should be consulted on their training needs through a thorough and regular review process

Procedure for handling an incident

Incidents involving substances may usually be placed into one of the following categories:

- Illness or inappropriate behaviour as a result of substance misuse
- Allegation of, or possession of, suspected illegal substances or drugs without medical authority
- Sharing/dealing in suspected illegal substances, or allegation/suspicion of same
- Drugs found on school premises
- A pupil discloses their own or another's involvement in one of the above scenarios

For all of these instances you should consult the '**Situations involving drugs without medical authority flow chart (appendix A)**'. This chart should be easily accessible or displayed within the Federation.

Medical Emergency

A medical emergency arises when a person:

- Is unconscious
- Is having trouble breathing
- Is seriously confused or disorientated
- Has taken a harmful substance
- Is otherwise at immediate risk of harm

The first aid procedures should be clearly displayed and all staff should be aware of them. Staff should know how to contact the first aider (who should be called in all cases.) See Medical emergencies form (Appendix B)

Confiscation

It is legal to confiscate an illegal drug in order to prevent an offence being committed and then to destroy it or hand it to the police.

If a member of staff disposes of a drug, a witness should be present and the action recorded.

Contacting Parents/Carers

It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to contact the parent/carer of a student involved in a drug related incident; although this responsibility may be devolved to another member of the Senior Leadership Team. It is at the discretion of the Headteacher whether the parents/carers are contacted and if so at what stage. Factors such as the safety and welfare, whether they are on the child protection plan and confidentiality issues should be recognised, although in most cases it is expected that a parent/carer would be contacted.

The Police

The law does not require schools to inform the police of illegal drug situations. In normal circumstances, the Headteacher will contact the police if unlawful substances are found in the school.

Searching

Staff are permitted to search for drugs with or without the pupil's consent, but they must do so under the guidance of the Headteacher or his designated deputy or the Head of School.

Guidance must be followed. See below:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/674416/Searching_screening_and_confiscation.pdf

Supporting the young person and their family

After immediate medical needs have been addressed and the nature of the incident established, an assessment should be made of the needs of the pupil involved. Any child who uses drugs to cope with personal anxiety or problems may need help from outside agencies. Information about local drug support services should be made available to the pupil and parents

Appendix A

Chulmleigh Community College

Sanctions

A named senior manager will oversee and co-ordinate any illegal drug offences within the school.

An incident report must be completed to record details of every drugs related incident (including those associated with tobacco or alcohol) and the people involved.
(Appendix C)

The consequences of a drug related incident are outlined below:

	First Offence	Subsequent Offence
Tobacco (possession or use)	Detention and letter home from HOH explaining consequences of future offence	Fixed term exclusion and return to school on tutor report
Alcohol (possession or use)	Fixed term exclusion, return to school on contract, governors disciplinary meeting with pupil and parents and remediation measures put into place	Permanent exclusion (ensure sufficient support network was involved in the contract)
Solvent abuse	Fixed term exclusion, return to school on contract, governors disciplinary meeting with pupil and parents and remediation measures put into place	Permanent exclusion (ensure sufficient support network was involved in the contract)
Possession of drugs paraphernalia	Fixed term exclusion, return to school on contract, governors disciplinary meeting with pupil and parents and remediation measures put into place	Permanent exclusion (ensure sufficient support network was involved in the contract)
Cannabis (use or possession of a small amount)	Fixed term exclusion and consideration of permanent exclusion, return to school on contract, governors disciplinary meeting with pupil and parents and remediation measures put into place	Permanent exclusion (ensure sufficient support network was involved in the contract)
Supply of Cannabis, possession of a large amount of cannabis or possession of a harder drug	Permanent exclusion	Not applicable

Offences from any category can be linked.

The policy should be reviewed every two years

DRUGS SITUATIONS - MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

The procedures for an emergency apply when a child or young person or others are at immediate risk of harm. A person who is unconscious, having trouble breathing, seriously confused or disorientated or who has taken a harmful toxic substance, should be responded to as an emergency.

Your main responsibility is for any pupil at immediate risk, but you also need to ensure the well-being and safety of others. Put into practice your school's first aid procedures.

IF IN ANY DOUBT, CALL MEDICAL HELP.

ALWAYS:

- ◆ assess the situation
- ◆ if it is a medical emergency, send for medical help and an ambulance

BEFORE ASSISTANCE ARRIVES:

If the person is conscious:

- ◆ ask the person what has happened and to identify any drug used
- ◆ collect any drug sample and any vomit for medical analysis
- ◆ **do not** induce vomiting
- ◆ keep the person under observation, warm and quiet

If the person is unconscious:

- ◆ ensure that the person can breathe and place in recovery position
- ◆ **do not move the person** if they have fallen, as a fall may have led to spinal or other serious injury which may not be obvious
- ◆ **do not** give anything by mouth
- ◆ **do not** attempt to make the person sit or stand
- ◆ **do not** leave the person unattended or in the charge of another pupil.

WHEN MEDICAL HELP ARRIVES:

- ◆ pass on any available information and any vomit and drug samples.

**PLEASE COMPLETE AN EMERGENCY RECORD FORM AS
SOON AS YOU HAVE DEALT WITH THE EMERGENCY**

POSSIBLE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF DRUG MISUSE

The signs listed may indicate that individuals or groups of young people are misusing drugs. Their presence alone is not conclusive proof of drug or solvent misuse: many of them are a normal part of adolescence but the presence of several signs together may point to a need for greater vigilance.

Behaviour

- Sudden and regular changes of mood or irritability.
- Unusually aggressive or restless.
- Gradual loss of interest in school/college work, friends, hobbies etc.
- Increased evidence of lying or other furtive behaviour.
- Loss of money or other objects from the house.
- Keeping at a distance from other pupils and away from points of supervision.
- Being the subject of rumours about drug taking.
- Talking to strangers on or near the premises.
- Stealing, which appears to be the work of several individuals rather than one person.
- Use of drug takers' slang.
- Exchanging money or other objects in unusual circumstances.
- Associating briefly with one person who is much older and not normally part of the peer group.
- Secretiveness about leisure time activities.

Physical Symptoms

- Loss of appetite.
- Uncharacteristically drowsy or sleepy.
- Unusual stains, marks or smells on the body or clothes or around the house.
- No interest in physical appearance.
- Sores or rashes especially on the mouth or nose.
- Heavy use of scents, colognes etc, to disguise the smell of drugs.
- Drunken behaviour.
- Frequent and persistent headaches, sore throat or running nose (whatever the reason a visit to the GP would be wise).

Drugs Education Policy

Aims and Objectives

This policy needs to be used in connection with the policies for PSE, health education, and behaviour management and aims to do the following:

- To increase knowledge and understanding of drugs and their effects by providing accurate information.
- To improve self-knowledge, particularly in terms of risk-taking.
- To promote positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles; to challenge and try to modify these when they may lead to behaviour harmful to health.
- To promote a sense of responsibility towards the use of drugs.
- To develop social skills such as making informed choices and resisting unhelpful pressures from peers, and from advertising.

These aims are fulfilled through aspects of the student' experiences in the taught curriculum, the informal curriculum and through opportunities for extra-curricular activities. We deliver the taught curriculum mainly through PSHE, Science, RE, Citizenship and English areas, but other opportunities to reinforce learning will occur in other parts of the teaching programme.

For detailed schemes of work please refer to the Drugs section of the PSHE programme of study (which can also be found at the end of this document)

This policy should be reviewed every 2 years.

CHULMLEIGH ACADEMY TRUST

Policy on Substance Incident Management

A Health Promoting School

Substance education is part of our development towards being a 'Healthy School'. The wellbeing of our pupils is at the centre of our comprehensive Personal, Social & Health (PSHE) educational programme, wider curriculum and school ethos. Further details about our substance education programme and policy can be found in the school's Statement of Policy on Substance Use and Misuse. The principal reason for this policy is the wellbeing and welfare of our pupils and school community who may (however unlikely) be involved in incidents involving substances. It is also for those who may be affected by this misuse. As any misuse of substances by pupils is serious and possibly harmful and/or illegal this document outlines the school's responsibility as far as substance incident management is concerned. Within this document, the title 'Head Teacher' refers to the Head Teacher or his/her nominated representative.

Our agreed definition of 'drugs' and 'substances'

The titles 'substances' and 'drugs' are defined within the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (Appendix 1) but in general, and for the purposes of this policy they refer to: all legal drugs, alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances, illegal drugs & over-the-counter & prescription medicines. We accept that drugs and substances usually alter our body chemistry, feelings and perceptions.

Rationale

Our School has a Statement of Policy on Substance Use and Misuse that includes a programme of study for substance education for all pupils. However, a pupil of Our School may choose to use legal substances inappropriately or experiment with illegal substances even if they have both the knowledge of the risks and the skills to resist peer pressure. This Substance Incident Management Policy provides guidance should there be a substance-related incident on school premises.

Health and Safety of Staff, Pupils and Parents

Professional medical help will be sought if there is any doubt as to the wellbeing of a pupil. The head-teacher will always be notified immediately and they will decide whether to contact the pupil's parents.

Our School's response to incidents involving substances

At our School we have considered carefully the response of staff should they notice substances or their misuse, or if they are approached by a pupil for individual advice on illegal drug misuse. Where a member of staff identifies a substance or substances, or their misuse, they should immediately inform the Headteacher. A record should be kept by the Headteacher (and/or member of staff responsible for child protection). It will be up to the Headteacher to inform appropriate persons in accordance with other policies referred to above. These may be related to child protection (social services), the parents, or the police. Action may need to be immediate in terms of the child's welfare (medical assistance) or may require a plan of action and/or involvement of other agencies. Where a pupil discloses to a member of staff that he or she is misusing substances, the staff member will make it clear to the pupil that he or she can offer no guarantee of confidentiality given the seriousness of drug misuse. The Headteacher should be informed immediately. A record should be kept by the Headteacher (and/or member of staff responsible for child protection) of the staff-pupil discussion. It is the Headteacher's decision as to whom they inform and when. Whilst acknowledging the above, a member of staff may inform the pupil of sources of confidential information and advice services who may assist those who are misusing illegal (or legal) substances to stop. As a school we may work with other services concerned with young people to offer appropriate advice and support should a pupil be found misusing substances.

Dealing with Illegal Drugs

The Secretary of State whilst acknowledging there is no statutory duty to do so, would expect the police to be informed by the school when illegal drugs are found on a pupil or on school premises. This would be at the Headteachers' discretion. School staff are permitted to take temporary possession of a substance suspected of being a controlled drug for the purposes of protecting a pupil from harm. In such circumstances staff are advised to be witnessed by a colleague. Staff, normally the Headteacher, should hand the substance to the police who will be able to identify whether it is an illegal drug. School staff must not attempt in any circumstances to analyse or taste an unidentified substance for obvious reasons.

A member of staff may search a pupil's tray where he or she has reasonable cause to believe it contains unlawful items, including illegal drugs. Where pupils are suspected of concealing illegal drugs on their person, every effort should first be made to secure the voluntary production of any unlawful substances, for example by asking them to turn out their pockets. If the pupil refuses, the police should be called in to deal with the situation.

Where a teacher is told, or is aware, of possible criminal activity outside school premises, the Secretary of State would also expect the police to be informed in the interests of safeguarding the health and safety of young people in the area. This would include not only information about the supply of illegal drugs but also, for example, evidence that a local shopkeeper was selling alcohol or solvents to pupils in contravention of the law.

Pastoral Care and Support for Pupils at Risk

Where a pupil has been identified as having experimented with illegal drugs or as being at particular risk of doing so, consideration will be given to the provision of appropriate support from within & outside of the school. As a school we are aware of specialised agencies, support and counselling services available in our area which are in a position to support a pupil at risk. The education welfare service, local health and social services, and the local police, through the police youth affairs officer, all have a role to play in supporting schools' efforts. Devon LEA also has a Primary Drugs Adviser and an Adviser for Personal, Social & Health Education.

Appendix 1.1

The Law on Drugs. It is an offence under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971:

to supply or offer to supply a controlled drug to another;

to be in possession of, or to possess with intent to supply to another, a controlled drug in contravention of the Act. It is a defence to the offence of possession that, knowing or suspecting it to be a controlled drug, the accused took possession of it for the purpose of preventing another from committing or continuing to commit an offence and that as soon as possible after taking possession of it he took all such steps as were reasonably open to him to destroy the drug or to deliver it into the custody of a person lawfully entitled to take custody of it;

for the occupier or someone concerned in the management of any premises knowingly to permit or suffer on those premises the smoking of cannabis; or the production, attempted production, supply, attempted supply, or offering to supply of any controlled drug.

Appendix 1.2

The term 'Our School' refers to activities that take place within the physical school boundaries as identified in county plans during school time plus those which take place as planned activities where school staff are directly responsible for the welfare of our young people. Premises used by staff and pupils for these 'off site' activities are subject to regular school policy, rules & regulations regarding substance use and misuse.

Appendix 1.5

Equipment Which May Be Used

- Scorched pieces of tin foil
- A home-made pipe
- The remains of a cannabis cigarette with small cardboard tube filter
- Sunglasses worn at inappropriate times
- Foil containers or cup shapes made from silver foil – perhaps discoloured by heat
- Metal tins
- Spoons discoloured by heat
- Pill boxes
- Plastic, cellophane or metal foil wrappers
- Small plastic or glass files or bottles
- Twists of paper
- Straws
- Sugar lumps
- Syringes or needles
- Cigarette papers and lighters
- Spent matches
- Plastic bags or butane gas containers (solvent abuse)
- Cardboard or other tubes
- Stamps, stickers or similar items
- Shredded cigarettes, home-rolled cigarettes and pipes
- Small squares of paper folded to make little envelopes