

CORPUS CHRISTI  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



# Drug and Alcohol Education Policy

2017

Date	Coordinator	Nominated Governor
October 2017	Gisele Jenson	Mrs J. Namusisi-Riley

## MISSION STATEMENT

Corpus Christi School exists to serve the Catholic communities of Brixton Hill and its neighbouring parishes.

We are here to educate the children to the highest possible standard in a community, which has the Gospel values, traditions and beliefs of the Catholic Faith at the centre of its ethos.

In all aspects of the school, Christian values will be upheld, with an emphasis on respect, helpfulness, unselfishness and co-operation.

## POLICY STATEMENT:

This policy will be available to all parents through the school website. Feedback on the policy will be gained from children during discreet drug education sessions. All staff will be directed to the policy as part of the induction process. Governors have ratified the policy.

### DEFINITION OF DRUGS

For the purpose of this policy, the term 'drugs' refers to substances that change the way the body or mind work, including:

- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Volatile substances (aerosols, solvents, glue or petrol)
- Caffeine
- Over the counter prescribed drugs e.g. painkillers, antibiotics
- Illegal drugs e.g. ecstasy, cannabis, cocaine, crack and heroine
- 'Legal' highs (new psychoactive substances)

'Drugs misuse' is defined as the non-medical use of drugs that are only intended for use in medical treatment, the use of drugs that have no accepted medical purpose (DfE circular 4/95).

## INTRODUCTION

Drugs play a part in the lives of everyone and it is a feature of our society that young children can be exposed to legal and illegal drugs, whether in the home, the wider community or in the media.

An understanding of drugs enables children to make informed decisions about their lifestyle and, as such, should occupy an important position in the primary curriculum.

At Corpus Christi the purpose of having a drug education policy is to ensure that all pupils have access to consistent, clear and thoroughly planned approaches to education that is appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils. This document serves to inform parents and the school community of procedures used at Corpus Christi.

### Aims:

This policy aims to highlight the school's positive and proactive approach to Drug Education. It also aims to give clear and comprehensive views on drugs.

Information pertaining to procedures for handling and reporting incidents can be found in the Corpus Christi Drug and Alcohol Policy.

Drug Education at Corpus Christi aims to:

- Enable pupils to make informed healthy and safe choices by increasing their knowledge, challenging their understanding and developing their skills.
- Support children in developing their communication skills to help them to assert themselves, resist pressure and make responsible decisions.
- Provide accurate and comprehensive information about substances.

## TEACHING METHODS

While we carry out the main teaching through the Drug and Alcohol scheme of work promoted by Lambeth, and through our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum, many national curriculum subjects can make very valuable contributions towards the teaching of drug education.

A wide range of teaching and learning approaches will be adopted to ensure that our drug education programme is thoroughly taught, starting with Needs Assessments, to ensure that teaching begins where the children's understanding and knowledge lies.

### EXTERNAL AGENCY SUPPORT

Children are taught by their own class teachers and on occasions by external agencies. All staff are committed to delivering the programme and, if external agencies are used, pupils will be adequately prepared.

### CONFIDENTIALITY

The welfare of children will always be central to the school's policy and practice. All pupils need to feel able to talk in confidence to a member of staff about a drug-related problem. However, in line with Safeguarding procedures, teachers will not be able to promise complete confidentiality and information about a child in relation to drugs will follow the same procedure as for other sensitive information.

## PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### WORKPLACE HEALTH

Members of staff need to be aware of procedures in relation to working and drug taking. Staff need to be clear about how they may access support, if required.

**The governing body is responsible for:**

- Authorising the Drug Education policy and any subsequent reviews of the policy and ensuring that the terms and ethos of this policy are followed.

**The Personal Social Health Education Co-ordinator is responsible for:**

- Writing and updating the Drug Education policy and Scheme of Work in light of initiatives and change, and monitoring the development of the subject throughout the school.
- Guiding and supporting teachers in this subject, to include refresher training for Drug Education.
- Coordinating external agency support for Drug Education.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of the planned and delivered curriculum for Drug Education.
- Coordinating classroom practices and guidelines across the curriculum and ensuring the development of subject skills.
- Auditing and monitoring resources throughout the school to ensure that there are sufficient age-appropriate and ability-appropriate resources for effective teaching and learning.

**The Head Teacher is responsible for:**

- Ensuring that the terms and ethos of this policy are followed.

**Other members of the staff team are responsible for:**

- Following the terms and ethos of this policy.

### Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools

**1st October 2014 the Human Medicines (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2014 will allow schools to buy salbutamol inhalers, without a prescription, for use in emergencies.**

**The emergency salbutamol inhaler should only be used by children, for whom written parental consent for use of the emergency inhaler has been given who have either been diagnosed with asthma and prescribed an inhaler, or who have been prescribed an inhaler as reliever medication.**

**The inhaler can be used if the pupil's prescribed inhaler is not available (for example, because it is broken, or empty).**

**This change applies to all primary and secondary schools in the UK. Schools are not required to hold an inhaler this is a discretionary power enabling schools to do this if they wish.**

**Schools which choose to keep an emergency inhaler should establish a policy or protocol for the use of the emergency inhaler based on this guidance.**

*Department of Health September 2014*

**USEFUL NUMBERS**

<b>SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE</b>	
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)	020 3228 7370
MAT – Multi Agency Team	020 7926 9022 (MAT 1) or 0207 926 9604 (MAT 2)
Lambeth Children & Young People’s Service Referral and Assessment Team (9.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. Monday – Friday)	020 7926 5555 <b>(PRESS OPTION 2)</b>
Lambeth Children & Young People’s Service Emergency Service Controller (Out of office hours)	020 7926 1000
<b>HELPLINES</b>	
Drinkline	<b>0300 123 1110</b>
Drinkaware	<a href="http://www.drinkaware.co.uk">www.drinkaware.co.uk</a>
FRANK (National Drugs Helpline)	0300 123 6600 <a href="http://www.talktofrank.com">www.talktofrank.com</a>
Family Lives <b>General advice and support</b>	0808 800 2222 <a href="http://www.familylives.org.uk">www.familylives.org.uk</a>
Re-Solv (Solvents/Volatile substances)	01785 817885 (Office) 01785 810 762 (Helpline) <a href="http://www.re-solv.org">www.re-solv.org</a>

**This policy is a working document and will be reviewed every two years.**

**Last reviewed:** October 2017

Date to be reviewed: September 2018