

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



St. John's C.E. (VA) School Cliviger

'Learn, Pray, Care & Play'

Our church school through its Christian values and caring community seeks to inspire each individual to achieve and grow.

Drug Education Policy

Intent:

- To provide a safe, healthy environment in which pupils/students and staff can learn and develop.
- To ensure all members of the school community know and understand the rules of the school, the expectations about their behaviour, and the policy regarding drug incidents and concerns about individuals.
- To promote clarity about the management of drug related incidents in the school.
- To encourage and enable pupils/students to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle now, and in the future.
- To enable pupils/students to make reasoned, informed choices.
- To minimise pupils/students experimentation with illegal or harm causing substances.
- To address and take account of local community needs, including the differences and diversity within the school community.
- To support and engage parents/carers and pupils/students in their own personal learning and responsibilities.
- To enable young people and staff to access support structures (including the voluntary sector), e.g. counselling, and treatment.
- To monitor, evaluate and review learning outcomes for pupils/students.
- To work with LCC and outside agencies, including the voluntary sector, to secure and support a balanced delivery of a drugs education programme.

Implementation:

Children will take part in age appropriate PSHE lessons which teachers will plan for using resources from the PSHE Association or resources quality assured by them. These lessons will support the objectives covered in the statutory guidance for Relationships Education and Health Education.

In PSHE lessons pupils will be taught:

- The facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking.
- To value and trust in their own learning through positive reflections and development of assertiveness and coping skills.
- Confidence building and communication skills.
- About themselves and their achievements, seeing their mistakes, making positive changes and setting personal goals.
- To recognise risky behaviour and risk taking within different situations and be able to respond appropriately.
- That pressure to behave inappropriately or to take risks can come from a variety of sources, including people they know, TV and the media.
- How to seek/ask for help and use basic techniques for resisting peer or unwanted pressure in order to minimise harm to themselves or others.
- That their actions affect themselves and others, to respect and care about other people's feelings, trying to see things from their point of view.
- That communication and problem solving skills are central to bringing about a positive change in attitudes and actions.

In teaching drug education, teachers use a range of teaching strategies, including role-play, discussion group work, debate and circle time. The use of circle time is a key strategy for developing life skills.

Cross-curricular links

Drug education has many cross-curricular links, with science making a particular contribution. However, the development of life skills is a theme throughout the curriculum, within the programme for Relationships Education and Health Education, and enshrined in the values, which are embodied in the schools' ethos. There are links to other subjects, such as physical education, and aspects of school life, notably the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of the curriculum.

Differentiation

Whilst some pupils/students may have a fairly broad knowledge and insight into the world of drugs, there are those who have little or no knowledge at all. Teachers need to be sensitive to this issue and that lessons are planned to take account of pupils/students' age, experience and maturity.

Impact:

- To provide opportunities for pupils/students to acquire knowledge and identify the distinction between authorised and unauthorised drugs.
- To develop and equip pupils/students with the knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to build their resilience and avoid peer group pressure or unwanted drug offers from others.
- To build pupils/students' decision-making skills and increased self esteem.
- To engage parents/carers in the school community and learning process.
- To enable pupils/students and staff to access support if they have concerns about their own or others' drug use.

Monitoring, Evaluating and Reviewing:

- There is a named co-ordinator for drug education and policy development.
- Senior managers are involved in monitoring and evaluation.
- Pupils/students, staff, parents/carers and governors are consulted and the programme and policy are modified where appropriate.
- There is ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the programme, teaching methodologies and learning outcomes to ensure that needs are met.
- Drug education is reviewed in line with current LEA and Government guidelines.

It should be noted that the school operates a No Smoking Policy.

Reviewed – September 2024