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*Caring, Courageous, Inspired*  
Drugs Education Policy

## DEFINITION

### What is a drug?

A drug is a substance which, when taken into the body, changes the way we feel, the way we see things and the way our body works.

This policy covers a range of drugs including alcohol, medicines, tobacco & vapour, solvents and illegal drugs.

## RATIONALE

As part of the school's care and welfare of its children, we believe we have a duty to inform and educate our children about drug use. At Christ Church C of E VC Infant School we share responsibility with parents and the community to educate children about the risks and consequences of drug use and misuse. We encourage them to make healthy choices by increasing knowledge and practising skills taught within the context of many aspects of the curriculum. We believe in keeping parents fully involved and informed at all times.

## PURPOSES

- To develop a whole school approach to drug education in the context of the Science and English curriculum and the Personal, Social and Health education (PSHE) programme.
- To provide accurate information about a range of drugs, including medicines, alcohol, tobacco and vapour.
- To explore attitudes and develop skills in making decisions about drugs.
- To have a clear and agreed understanding among everyone in the school community about the implications and possible consequences of drug use/misuse.
- To establish a school environment that is free from the misuse of any drugs.
- To clarify procedures in the management of drug related incidents.

## GUIDELINES

All children will follow an integrated drug education program, which is relevant to their age, experience and maturity. This will be delivered through the existing curriculum, mainly Science and PSHE (Jigsaw scheme of work). It will focus in the development of self-esteem and decision- making skills. 'Circle-Time' will be used regularly to support these skills and to develop the children' communication skills.

All staff will be provided with adequate training and support to help them deliver effective drug education and respond to situations consistently and sensitively, taking account of religious, social and cultural issues. The school has a procedure for the administration of medicines that must be followed for everyone's safety (Please see the Policy for Managing Medical Needs). Medical conditions are recorded on our school management information system (Arbor) and are accessible by all staff.

We will invite, at times, specialist visitors who work in the field of drugs to contribute to the lessons on Drug Education.

The whole school grounds are designated a no smoking/vaping area.

The first aid box contains only permitted items.

### **MANAGEMENT OF DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS**

The Headteacher will be responsible for coordinating the management of drug related incidents, offering sources of support and liaison with outside agencies.

### **PROCEDURES**

Medicines	-See Policy on the Administration of medicines
Alcohol	-No alcohol will be consumed during the course of a normal school day.
Tobacco	-No Smoking Policy
Solvents	-The school will ensure that potentially harmful substances are stored safely, having due regard to the COSHH regulations.
Illegal Substances	-No illegal or illicit substances should be brought to school or used on the school premises.

### **CONCLUSION**

The welfare of children, staff and parents at Christ Church C of E VC is of paramount concern and we shall work together with everyone involved with the school to ensure the continued education and well-being of all our children.

All parents and children will be made aware of the contents of this policy, the implications for them and the education and welfare of children.

Reviewed T2 2023/24

Next review: T2 2026/27