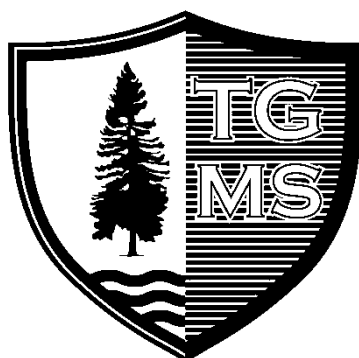




BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Drug Education Policy Tylers Green Middle School



This policy was adopted on: Summer 2022

The policy is to be reviewed by: Summer 2025

Rationale

TGMS has a policy on drug education and dealing with drug-related incidents and provides a quality Drug Education Programme for all our pupils.

We recognise that children and young people are growing up in a drug using society and that they encounter legal and illegal drug misuse in a variety of situations. However, we are very clear that alcohol, tobacco, volatile substances and illegal drugs have no place in our school.

TGMS acknowledges that we cannot solve all the problems of drug misuse in society but recognises that education can play a key role in ensuring that young people know the risks of taking drugs, have the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions and know how to access support and help if needed. TGMS is committed to safeguarding the health and safety of its children.

School staff and other adults on site should act at all times as responsible role models and set a good example of drug-related behaviour. Therefore this policy will apply to any person on the school premises, unless the Head Teacher has agreed for the rules to be altered for a particular occasion, i.e. when alcohol is available at an over 18's function.

Key People involved in the Drugs Policy

Headteacher; School Drug coordinator; Child Protection Officer; Welfare Officer; PSHE Coordinator; School Governor with responsibility for Citizenship and PSHE; School Staff; Children; Parents and carers;

Drug definition

A drug is a substance, legal or illegal that can alter the way the mind or body works. Therefore this policy will include alcohol, tobacco products, caffeine, solvents and other volatile substances, over the counter drugs and medicines, prescribed medicines including tranquillisers and painkillers and illegal drugs.

General aims of drugs policy and procedures

To provide a protective framework within which staff can teach and pupils can be taught

- To help children and young people resist drug misuse in order to achieve their full potential in society
- To ensure that all pupils are given opportunities to develop skills, explore attitudes, consider consequences and increase knowledge and understanding in order to make healthy informed choices about drug use and misuse.

Specific aims:

- To provide pupils with accurate information about substances in order to dispel myths
- To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of drug use including related health and social issues
- To develop personal and social skills such as communication, assertiveness and decision making skills
- To develop and enhance self-esteem and self confidence
- To inform pupils about appropriate sources of additional support and enable them to access these

Drug Education

To be effective, drug education will be taught through the formal and informal curriculum, although the main vehicle will be the PSHE curriculum in conjunction with Science. The Schemes of Work for these subjects lay out the foundation for the teaching of drug education. This ensures that there is not repetition or omission, but that topics are introduced and reinforced appropriately according to the needs of the pupils and the community.

Lessons are carefully planned, with appropriate grouping of pupils for different activities, clear learning outcomes for each topic and strategies for assessment.

Content

The statutory National Curriculum Science Orders requires that the following elements of drug education be taught:

- Key Stage 2 (7 – 11 year olds) – That alcohol, tobacco and other drugs can have harmful effects

The National Curriculum PSHE and Citizenship Guidelines recommend that we help young people to:

- Develop confidence and responsibility and make the most of their abilities
- Prepare to play an active role as citizens
- Develop healthy, safer lifestyles
- Develop good relationships and respect the difference between people.

Our PSHE curriculum at TGMS includes:

Using PSHE and Citizenship materials

Year 3: Lifestyles

- about which commonly available substances are legal and illegal and about their effects and risks
- to recognise the risk in different situations and to decide how to behave responsibly
- knowledge, skills and understanding through opportunities to find information and advice

The topic of drugs may arise in the topics – Safe Choices and Things that influence us.

Year 4 Lifestyles: Influences (Smoking)

- what makes a healthy lifestyle and how to make informed choices
- about which commonly available substances are legal and illegal and about their effects and risks
- that pressure to behave in an unacceptable or risky way can come from a variety of sources, including people they know, and how to ask for help and use basic techniques for resisting pressure to do wrong
- knowledge, skills and understanding through opportunities to make real choices and find information and advice

The topic of drugs may arise in the topics of Personal safety and Secrets

Year 5- Lifestyle: Harmful substances (alcohol, cigarettes, other drugs)

- to explore how the media present information

- what makes a healthy lifestyle
- about which commonly available substances are legal and illegal and about their effects and risks

that pressure to behave in an unacceptable or risky way can come from a variety of sources, including people they know, and how to ask for help and use basic techniques for resisting pressure to do wrong

- knowledge, skills and understanding through opportunities to make real choices and decisions and to prepare for change.

Year 6: Lifestyle: Drugs (Legal and Illegal drugs)

- what makes a healthy lifestyle
- about which commonly available substances are legal and illegal and about their effects and risks
- to recognise the risk in different situations and to decide how to behave responsibly that pressure to behave in an unacceptable or risky way can come from a variety of sources, including people they know, and how to ask for help and use basic techniques for resisting pressure to do wrong
- knowledge, skills and understanding through opportunities to make real choices and find information and advice

The subject of drugs may arise in the topics of Coping with pressure or A Healthy Mind

However, Drug Education fits into the wider PSHE programme to include the exploration of attitudes, the development and applications of the skills and awareness of risk and risk management, including choices and consequences in relation to health and life.

Approaches to Learning

Effective drug education should encourage the active participation of young people and use a wide variety of teaching approaches. We therefore encourage the use of

- Role play
- Brainstorming
- Group work
- Structured games
- Audio and visual aids

- Outside speakers
- Theatre groups

Assessment, monitoring and evaluation

Lessons will be carefully planned using formative and summative assessment to ensure that the pupils reflect with the teacher on what they have learned in terms of knowledge and understanding, development of skills, and how their attitudes and values may have changed. End of Key Stage statements are used to record achievement.

Teachers are required to report on personal and social development in pupils' annual school reports.

Medicines in School

Pupils, who need access to medication on a continuing basis e.g. asthma inhalers or ventilators or insulin for diabetics, are allowed to bring their medication to be kept at school in the Medical Room. Where able to do so, they will be able to self-medicate under the supervision of a member of school staff.

Medicine stored must be clearly labelled with the pupil's name, the name and dose of the drug and the frequency of administration.

- Medicines should not be transferred from their original container.
- Any medicines that need to be refrigerated can be kept in a refrigerator, clearly labelled. Access to the refrigerator will be restricted.
- Pupils with medical needs should know where their medicines are stored. Staff should also know this.
- Some medicines such as asthma inhalers must be readily available and therefore not be locked away.
- Parents/carers will be required to complete a parental consent form for any medicine to be admitted. These are stored in class files in the medical room.
- People who suffer from anaphylactic reactions may need emergency adrenaline treatment. Staff who volunteer to administer this treatment will be given training. Parents/carers will be held responsible for the regular collection of any unused medication e.g. at the end of each

term, and also for the disposal of date expired medicines. They are also responsible for keeping medicine in school within the use by dates.

A written record is kept of every time a medicine is given to a child.

Dealing with drug-related incidents

Procedures

There are a variety of situations that would constitute a drug-related incident outlined below.

- 1 Pupil under the influence of drugs/alcohol.
- 2 Discovery - drugs/alcohol/paraphernalia found on pupil.
- 3 Supplying by:
 - a) Pupil;
 - b) School staff/parents/carers/persons external to the school community.
- 4 Disclosure.
- 5 Suspicion or rumour.
- 6 Drugs/alcohol/paraphernalia found on premises.
- 7 School staff/parents/carers/person external to the school community under the influence of drugs/alcohol on school premises.

Boundaries and school responsibility

Pupils are expected to adhere to this policy once they have entered the physical boundaries of the school until they leave the same boundaries at the end of the school day. Any pupil involved in a drug-related incident on such an occasion will be dealt with according to this policy.

Support and sanctions

There will not be an automatic sanction applied to any drug-related incident in school. Any response will be taken after considering all the relevant facts and information about the child and the circumstances in which any drug-related incident has come about. The school response will be part of a supportive network developed to ensure that the school uses its powers to protect the long-term welfare of all the pupils in the school, keeping child protection issues in mind at all time.

Records

Records will be kept using the Incident Management form for all drug-related incidents. These will be kept securely by the Headteacher and will only be shared with key people with consent from the Headteacher or Deputy. In order to support local monitoring and policies a copy should be sent to the Schools' Drug Education Consultant that will remain confidential.

Confidentiality

Young people wishing to disclose drug use by themselves, their parents or their peers to school staff are informed that confidentiality cannot be guaranteed and that the issue may need to be taken further for the pupil's safety. Any information will be recorded and treated sensitively.

Collecting evidence

- School staff may take temporary possession of a substance suspected of being a controlled drug.
- The substance should either be handed to the police who will be able to identify if it is an illegal drug or it should be disposed of in the presence of a witness, but its identity cannot be claimed in retrospect. School staff should not attempt to analyse or taste an unidentified substance.
- It is open to a member of staff to search a student's tray where s/he has reasonable cause to believe it contains unlawful items. This should be done in the presence of a witness and the child.
- Where pupils are suspected of concealing illegal substances on their persons, every effort should first be made to secure the voluntary handing over of any unlawful substance by, for example, asking them to turn out their pockets.
- It is also reasonable for the designated teacher, when interviewing a pupil to ask the pupil to make his/her bags available for inspection.
- The teacher must be careful to ensure that there is no opportunity for allegations of assault or improper conduct to arise, and therefore a witness should be in attendance at any interview or search of belongings.
- If a student refuses, the student should be detained under supervision while the police are called in to deal with the situation.
- A teacher should never make intimate physical searches - the powers to search by the police are clearly defined in law.

Monitoring and evaluation

The Drug Co-ordinator will take the lead on monitoring the school policy and its implementation, and acting on any resulting recommendations. This will happen informally on an annual basis, with a formal review and any necessary re-writing of the policy on a three-year cycle.

Drug Co-ordinator role

- Has access to SMT meetings and the Governing Body.
- Will keep updated on professional development needs in relation to drug education and dealing with drug-related incidents, and lead on the co-ordination of staff training including cascading of relevant information to staff (through twilight sessions, briefing, school newsletter etc).
- Ensure the school staff are trained and confident to provide drug education.
- Ensures that training materials and leaflets are in line with the ethos of the school, and age and needs appropriate.
- Liaises with outside agencies and ensures they are familiar with school policy.
- Disseminates drug policy and leads on consultation and review processes.

Useful Contact Numbers in Buckinghamshire

- Schools' Drug Education Consultant

Tel: 01296 334994

- Bucks Drug Action Team (Young People's Drugs Co-ordinator)

Tel: 01296 387161

- CAMHS/Outreach Services

Tel: 01494 476140

- Connexions (Substance Misuse Worker)

Tel: 077369 50647

- Drug Prevention Education Awareness Project (DPEAP)

Tel: 01296 339821