



HARMONIZE ACADEMY

DRUGS POLICY

POLICY WRITTEN BY:	PRINCIPAL
DATE POLICY PREPARED:	MARCH 2013
DATE FIRST RATIFIED BY GOVERNING BODY:	APRIL 2013
DATE POLICY REVIEWED:	SEPTEMBER 2024
DATE FOR NEXT REVIEW:	SEPTEMBER 2025

Trust, Respect, Compassion, Forgiveness

Drugs Policy

PURPOSE

At HARMONIZE ACADEMY drug 'education' aims to educate people for living in a drug using society. We endeavour to provide information, explore issues and help students to develop their ability to make choices.

'Drug prevention' aims to reduce the misuse of drugs and reduce the harm that they cause.

Quotation from DfEE document on drugs incident management policies:

"....is that it helps to ensure that schools consider beforehand and be clear about the definition of both a drug and a drug-related incident. It helps schools to react consistently and fairly to incidents and to ensure that all those involved are aware beforehand of the course of action that is likely to be taken. School staff in particular may benefit from the opportunity to explore their duties and responsibilities in relation to drug-related incidents..... Students will benefit from seeing demonstrated in the school's actions the value of a consistent approach to rules and regulations".

(DfEE 1998 Protecting Young People, paragraph 6)

STANDARDS

- Drugs education takes place within the curriculum.
- All students have access to drug prevention guidance.
- Drug related incidents are managed within the protocol agreed with the police.

THE SCHOOL'S AIMS FOR OUR DRUG EDUCATION PROGRAMME ARE:

- To improve students knowledge of drugs and their effects on the human body.
- To raise students awareness of the consequences of drug use and misuse.
- To enable students to make informed decisions about drug use.
- To develop students understanding of the reasons why drugs are used and misused.
- To enable students to i.d. sources of information and appropriate personal support and be able to make use of these sources if they require them.

THE SCHOOL'S AIMS FOR DRUG PREVENTION ARE:

- To make HARMONIZE ACADEMY a health promoting environment.
- To provide drug education for parents, carers and the community.
- To make available information about drugs and drug use to students.
- To ensure that the School's premises are a safe environment in respect of drugs.
- To be prepared to talk to students about any drug-related problems and offer them appropriate advice.

THE SCHOOL'S AIMS FOR DRUG RELATED INCIDENT MANAGEMENT ARE THAT PROTOCOLS TAKE INTO ACCOUNT:

- Human rights.
- Current legislation.
- Promote the school's Drug related incident process.
- Our agreed flow chart for police/school actions.

THE POLICY INCLUDES:

- The context and purpose of the policy and its relationship to other policies.
- Local and national guidance.
- To whom the policy applies.
- The school's stance towards drugs, health and the needs of the students.
- Staff with key responsibility for drugs.
- Drug education.
- Methodology and resources.
- Staff support and training.
- Assessment, monitoring, evaluation and review.
- Management of drugs at school.
- Police involvement.
- Confidentiality.
- Involvement of parents and carers.
- The role of Governors.
- The use of external agencies.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW ARRANGEMENTS

Monitoring of this policy will be conducted annually. It will be led by the school's Deputy Head and nominated child protection officer and undertaken jointly with Governors and Senior Leadership Team. Students' views will be taken into consideration through consultation with the student council. Additions, deletions of amendments in response to local and national changes will be incorporated as appropriate.

The policy applies to all staff, students, parents/carers, governors and partner agencies. This policy is linked to: behaviour, healthy schools, medicines, confidentiality, and child protection.

The academy's stance towards drugs, health and the needs of the students is that there must be good management of drugs within the school community. The first concern is the health and safety of the school community. Drugs may be authorised in the school and when dealing with medical emergencies.

Illegal or other unauthorized drugs are not acceptable within the school.

The school consequences regarding unauthorised drugs/medicines are that any attempt to consume drugs on site will lead to an exclusion/fixed term and permanent will be considered. Any person caught bringing drugs onto the school site for shared use or sale will be permanently excluded.

Specified staff will oversee and co-ordinate prescription drugs issued.

These staff are: (Administrator: Lead First Aid officer: To be named when appointed)

Drugs education is found within the framework for PSHE and citizenship and the National Curriculum. This is taught to Years 10,11 by selected staff. Teaching is inclusive and differentiated for those with SEN. Student's diversity is taken into account.

Methodology and resources.

- The teaching methods follow the 4 part structure and the programme is linked across year groups to ensure clarity, consistency and continuity. Staff who deliver the programme have received INSET to ensure links are developed advice is taken from external parties if appropriate.
- Resources are managed by Deputy Head and kept in staff workroom.

Staff support and training.

- All staff including support staff have received INSET training re PSHE programme and are up-dated regularly regarding the delivery of programmes and establishing consistency and continuity throughout the programme.
- New staff attend induction training sessions.
- Assessment, monitoring, evaluation and review are done through PSHE programme.

Management of drugs at school

- The school is a non-smoking zone. If drug paraphernalia and suspected illegal unauthorised drugs are found they are consigned to the police.

Confidentiality

- The school ensures that sensitive information disclosed internally or externally pays careful attention to students' rights. Child protection procedures must be followed if a student's safety is considered under threat – see Child Protection policy.

Involvement of parents/carers

- The school provides information for parents at drug information evenings to encourage them to be involved in their child's drug education.

The Role of Governors

The Drugs Policy must be ratified by the Governing Body. A designated governor, Mrs Rebecca Ross-Williams oversees the Drugs Education Programme and is involved in any exclusion related to drug misuse on site.

The use of external agencies.

The school benefits from working with other agencies who work with the community.

- We Are With You
- Barnardos
- Integrated Family Support Team