

ROMAN WAY ACADEMY



DRUGS EDUCATION POLICY

This school is an inclusive school and all children, irrespective of social background, culture, race, gender, differences in ability and disabilities have an entitlement to this area of the curriculum.

Definition

The term 'drug' is defined as any substance which affects the way in which the body functions physically, emotionally or mentally and includes tobacco, alcohol, solvents, over-the-counter and prescribed medicines as well as illicit substances. We understand that drugs education means increasing children's understanding in all these areas.

Value and Aims

Drugs education is a key strand of our approach to PSHEC and the broader aim to provide a caring community in which children can learn to respect themselves and others and take responsibility for their own actions. We are committed to the health and safety of all members of the school community and will take actions to safeguard their well being.

We aim to:

- enable children to make healthy, informed choices through increasing their knowledge, challenging preconceptions and practising skills.
- to increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of drug use and misuse.
- to widen understanding about related health, social and legal issues.
- to help children develop a sense of self-awareness and self-esteem.
- to counter any inaccurate messages which children receive about drugs.

Objectives

We intend to achieve these aims through:

- the specific teaching of age appropriate drugs education from the Foundation Stage through to Year 4.
- the reinforcement of key messages (such as resisting peer pressure, building self-esteem) at different ages through a cross- curricular approach and through non-curriculum activities.
- ensuring that our drugs education is age appropriate, meets the needs of the children and is inclusive of those with special educational needs.
- involving the whole school community in reinforcing key messages and encourage adults to be good role models.
- provide training and support as necessary in the planning and delivery of drugs education.
- ensuring that resources, schemes of work and policies are regularly reviewed and kept up to date.

Teaching

Drugs education is a key strand in our overall PSHEC programme. Details can be found in our PSHEC Scheme of Work.

Drugs education will also be delivered through:

- aspects of the National Curriculum and RE, especially Science.
- the occasional assembly.
- visits by outside agencies such as the school nurse, police officers etc.
- private discussions with pupils as necessary - the Child Protection Officer should be informed if a member of staff feels that a child is at some form of risk.

- informal discussions and non-curricular activities as and when opportunities arise.

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Teaching Methods

A wide range of teaching approaches may be used. We particularly encourage active learning methods involving children's full participation.

The use of drama and role-play are recognised as being particularly effective in aspects of drug education.

Many of the general PSHEC resources contain support material for drugs education. In addition there is:

- Dansi - drugs education pack for Foundation and Key Stage 1.
- Project Charlie - drugs education pack for Key Stage 2.

Assessment

Teachers will follow assessment procedures as defined in our PSHEC Policy.

Evidence of children's learning will be through teachers' planning, photographs of lessons or special events and keeping examples of children's work.

Responding to Possible Drug Related Incidents

Any situation where drugs might possibly be involved should be treated seriously. Each response needs to be responded to individually as a variety of responses may be necessary. These responses may link to other policies such as Behaviour, Health and Safety or Child Protection.

Parents should be informed as early as possible so that the school and parents can work together in supporting the child.

It is unrealistic to promise confidentiality and this should not be done, especially when there is a risk to that child or to another person. The child should be informed to whom information is being passed onto.