

Whitchurch Community Primary School

Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education

Introduction

Drug, alcohol and tobacco education is an explicit planned component of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE). Aspects of drug, alcohol and tobacco education are included in The Science Curriculum. Drug, alcohol and tobacco education “provides a context for enabling pupils to increase their knowledge and understanding of drugs, alcohol and tobacco and to explore attitudes and develop skills for making healthy, informed choices” – “Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education – QCA”

What Substances will pupils learn about?

- Over the counter or prescriptive medicines
- Legal substances such as caffeine, alcohol and tobacco
- Volatile substances eg glues
- Illegally produced, owned or supplied substances eg ecstasy, cocaine
- Pupils will gain knowledge of these through planned learning opportunities appropriate to their age and needs

Aims

- To provide an objective, balanced and comprehensive Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education Policy programme for all our children.
- To provide a curriculum that reflects the age and maturity of pupils.
- To provide a safe, non-judgemental environment for pupils to explore, express and share their own feelings about drugs, alcohol and tobacco.
- To enable children to develop decision making skills to allow them to make informed decisions to keep themselves safe and healthy.
- To enable children to learn and respect themselves and others.

Teaching and Learning Opportunities

Pupils will have the chance to develop knowledge, skills and understanding to:-

- Take responsibility eg Class Monitor, draw up class rules, take part in House assemblies.
- Feel positive about themselves eg by giving and receiving positive feedback.
- Participate eg in discussion groups about drugs, alcohol and tobacco.
- Make real choices and decisions eg School Council, School Improvement.
- Meet, talk and work with a variety of people and develop relationships eg Police, School Nurse, with pupils from other schools and year groups.
- Consider social and moral dilemmas eg be aware of different points of view through role play and debate.
- Find information and advice eg helplines, websites.
- Prepare for change eg anticipating the challenges of Secondary School.

Assessment

Pupil and Staff assessments will be used to evaluate children's learning and be used to inform planning and future teaching.

Inclusion

Teachers will plan to ensure that all children can fully participate. Teachers will take into account potential barriers to learning arising from pupil's personal circumstances eg where pupils have parents/carers who misuse drugs, alcohol or who smoke.

Teachers need to be able to recognise when pupil's needs cannot be met in school and when they need to contact specialist sources of help eg Social Services.

Resources

All resources used will be compatible with the Policy. Pupils will be protected from teaching materials which are inappropriate ie having regard to age and cultural background of our pupils.

Parents

Parents are the key people in teaching their children about keeping safe. Whitchurch School will work in partnership with parents supporting them in their role to help educate their children about drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Parents will be informed about the teaching programme through class topic letters
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