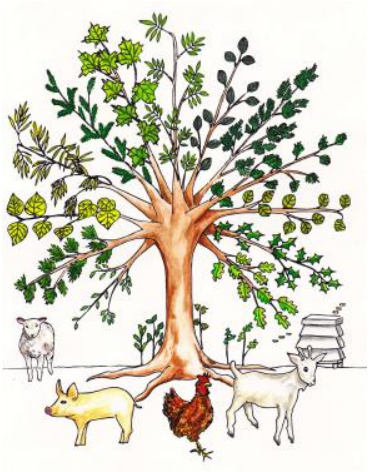
Edwalton Primary School

DRUGS POLICY



Reviewed September 2026

Next review September 2027

Edwalton Primary Drugs Policy

Introduction

Research has shown that by the age of 11 many primary school children have extensive knowledge of the world of drugs. For some, this knowledge may be inaccurate and incomplete, for others it will develop through personal experience. At Edwalton Primary School we deliver a robust anti-drugs education which prepares children to resist peer pressure, make confident decisions to safeguard themselves and to know how and where to seek help.

Drugs education should contribute to:
- Increasing the safety of communities from drug related crime
- Reducing the acceptability and availability of drugs to young people
- Reducing the health risks and other damage related to drug misuse.

Aims

Objectives
- To develop children's personal and social skills including refusal and decision making skills
- To help children take increased responsibility for themselves and their actions
- To encourage children to value themselves and others
- To encourage children to help and support others
- To encourage children to work cooperatively in active learning and group work
- To clarify what children already know, give information to clarify facts and correct false knowledge and beliefs
- To help children deal with the effect of media coverage of issues relating to drugs
- To support staff in dealing with issues and incidents relating to drugs and drugs use
- To ensure all staff are aware of procedures relating to drugs and drug use at Edwalton Primary School
- To provide opportunities for pupils to acquire knowledge and identify the distinction between authorised and unauthorised drugs
- To develop and equip pupils with the knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to build their resilience and avoid peer group pressure or unwanted drug offers from others
- To build pupils' decision-making skills and increased self esteem.

Definition

At Edwalton 'drugs' include any substance that affects your body. This includes socially acceptable and unacceptable drugs. These will include:-

- Tobacco/Vapes
- Alcohol
- Medicines
- Illegal substances.

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Storage and Administration of Medicines

The school acknowledges that parents and carers have prime responsibility for the child's health and should provide us with information about their child's medical condition when appropriate. We will administer prescribed medication on completion of the appropriate forms by the parent or carer. The medication will be administered and signed for by the member of staff administering the medication and countersigned by a second member of staff as a safeguard mechanisim. Where necessary, school staff will receive training on specific medical conditions.

Other than an inhaler, no pupil should be in possession of medication at any time. All necessary medication is stored in either the refrigerator in the staff room or the labelled cupboard in the classroom. Further details can be found in the school's medicines policy.

The role of the Head Teacher

It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher to ensure that staff and parents are informed about this drugs education policy, and that the policy is implemented effectively. It is also the Head Teacher's role to ensure that staff are given sufficient training, so that they can teach effectively and handle any difficult issues with sensitivity.

The Head Teacher will liaise with external agencies regarding the school drugs education programme and ensure that all adults who work with children on these issues are aware of the school policy and work within this framework. The Head Teacher will monitor the policy on a day to day basis and report to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

The role of governors

The governing body has the responsibility of setting down these general guidelines on drugs education. The governors will support the Head Teacher in following these guidelines. Governors will inform and consult with parents about the drugs education policy. Governors will also liaise with the LA, The Flying High Partnership and health organisations so that the school's policy is in line with the best advice available.

The role of parents

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's drugs education lies with parents. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and cooperation.

In promoting this objective we will:

• Inform parents about the school drugs education policy and practice
• Invite parents to view any materials used to teach drugs education in our school
• Answer any questions parents may have about the drugs education their child receives in school
• Take seriously any issue which parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy or the arrangements for drugs education in the school
• Encourage parents to be involved in reviewing the school policy and making modifications to it as necessary
• Inform parents about the best practice known with regard to drugs education so that the parents can support the key messages being given to children at school.

Teaching

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Our approach to drugs education is one which children are given information in the belief that increased knowledge about drugs and the risks will empower children to make informed and safe decisions. We approach this in a sensitive manner appropriate to the age and experiences of the children concerned. Teaching is:-

- Well resourced
- Reflects the needs and experiences of pupils
- Uses a range of teaching methods including group work, discussions, videos and outside speakers
- Reinforces messages about healthy lifestyles
- Flexible and relevant
- In the context of a wider PSHE programme (See Appendix 5)
- Interesting and stimulating
- Informed.

We reflect the requirements and guidance in the Science National Curriculum and the non-statutory framework for PSHE and Citizenship. These include Health and Wellbeing sessions at an age appropropriate levels for all pupils on how to keep our bodies healthy, basic hygiene routines, the roles of medicines, the importance of keeping safe in different situations (on the roads, stranger danger, resisting peer pressure) Year 5 and 6 pupils have sex and relationships education around healthy relationships and also do DARE (Drug Awareness Resistance Education) and have workshops run by the NSPCC around keeping safe online. Please refer to our PHSE and Sex and Relationships policies for further details. Full details of the PHSE lessons are included in Appendix 5.

Outside visitors
If outside speakers are used in any aspect of the drugs education programme, their contribution will be properly planned. They will support the work of the teacher who will meet with the speaker beforehand to plan the work and explain the school's policy on drug education. Teachers will be present and involved in all sessions and will evaluate the work afterwards. The teacher has overall responsibility for the session and the work planned.

Training, monitoring and evaluation
The Teaching and learning of drugs education is monitored in relation to this agreed policy and within PSHE learning and teaching as part the whole school monitoring Calandar. The PSHE coordinator has responsibility for monitoring drug education teaching and learning in conjunction with the Head Teacher.

Managing drug related incidents
Incidents are managed in the context of the school's commitment to:-
- The safety and welfare of all pupils and staff
- The welfare of individuals deemed to be at risk
- The law concerning drugs.

The Head Teacher retains the responsibility for deciding how to respond to particular incidents in conjunction with the SENCo. This will take account of the individual concerned and whether they are a pupil, parent or member of staff. The school's policy is that 'no individuals should be under the influence of drugs (as detailed in this policy) while on the school premises (within the boundary of the external playground wall) unless a doctor's note indicates that this does not affect the individuals capacity to

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perform their duties, take care of children in their charge, or in the case of pupils, take part in lessons.
Appendices 1, 2, 3 and 4 outline the procedures to be followed in individual circumstances.
All incidents are recorded in the incident monitoring log. All members of the school community are aware of these procedures and the implications for individuals.
Each incident will be dealt with on an individual basis. Young children who are deemed to be at risk will be treated in relation to the school's policy on Child Protection.

Responding to the Media:
As drug-related incidents are likely to generate media interest, all members of staff have been advised not to respond to journalists. The Head Teacher will make a considered response after seeking assistance from the Flying High Trust Press Office.

Appendix 1: ILLEGAL DRUGS FOUND ON PREMISES

ADVISE HEAD TEACHER /DESIGNATED TEACHER

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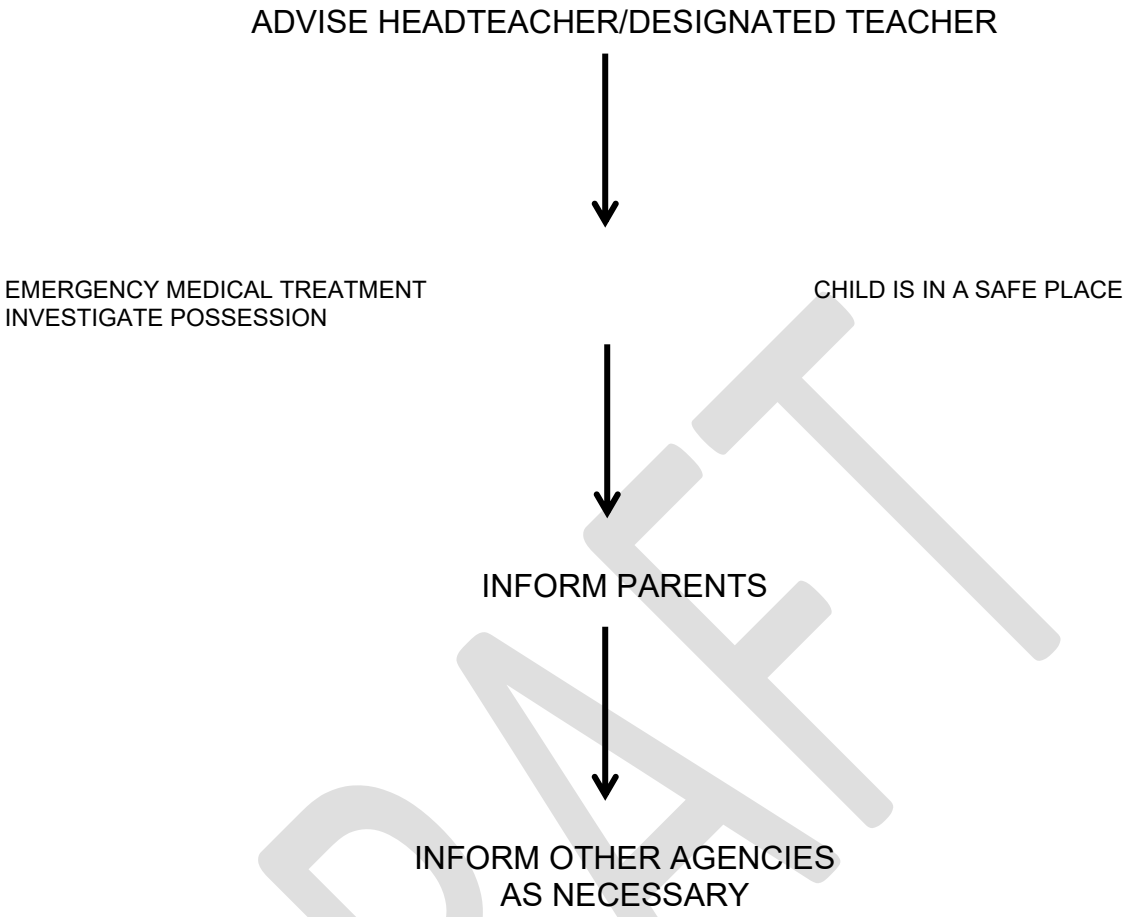
KEEP IN A SECURE PLACE

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PHONE LOCAL POLICE TO COLLECT

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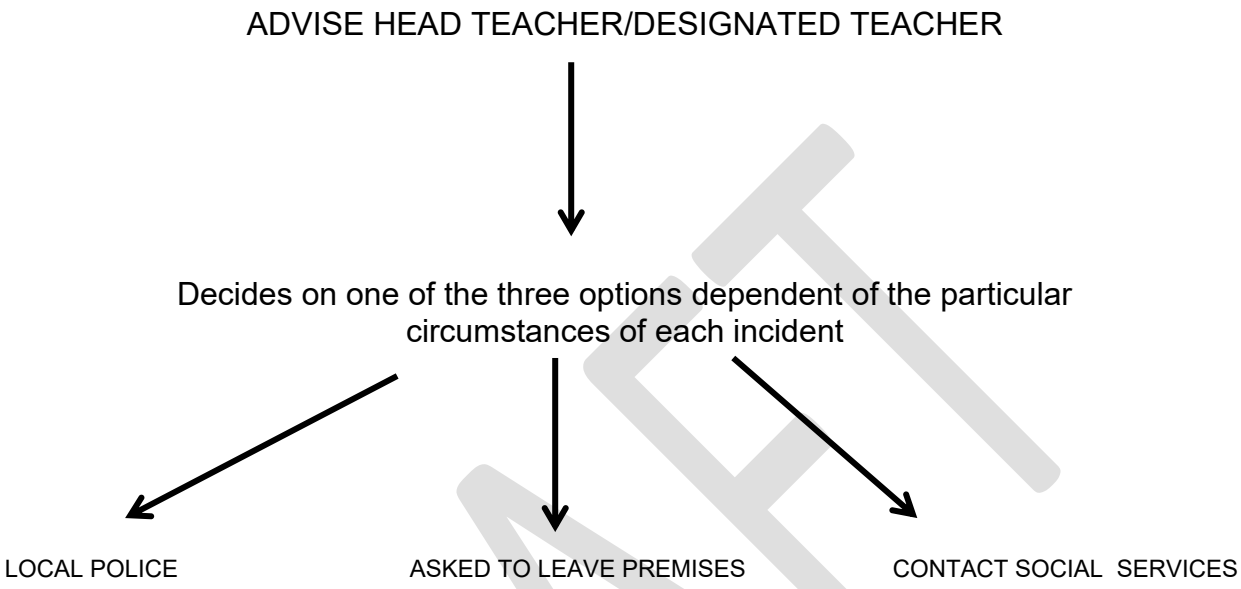
Appendix 2-PUPILS UNDER THE influence OF DRUGS/ALCOHOL



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Inform FHP of any incident

Appendix 3- PARENTS/CARERS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS/ALCOHOL ON SCHOOL PREMISES



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Inform FHP of any incident

No alcohol will be permitted to be consumed by a member of staff on school premises without the prior permission of the Head Teacher

Appendix 4- STAFF/GOVERNORS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS/ALCOHOL ON SCHOOL PREMISES

ADVISE HEAD TEACHER /DESIGNATED TEACHER



PUT SAFE PLACE

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES



ARRANGE FOR THEM TO LEAVE PREMISES

CONSIDER APPROPRIATE RISK ACTION

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