

OLDHAM HULME GRAMMAR SCHOOL

DRUGS EDUCATION

This policy is applicable from EYFS through to year 13

As part of the statutory duty on schools to promote pupils' wellbeing, schools have a clear role to play in preventing drug misuse as part of their pastoral responsibilities. To support this, the Government's Drug Strategy 2010 ensures that school staff have the information, advice and power to:

- Provide accurate information on drugs and alcohol through education and targeted information, including via the FRANK service <https://www.talktofrank.com/>;
- Tackle problem behaviour in schools, with wider powers of search and confiscation;
- Work with local voluntary organisations, health partners, the police and others to prevent drug or alcohol misuse.

DfE and ACPO drug advice for schools

September 2012

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/270169/drug_advice_for_schools.pdf

Principles

- The school acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role in the welfare of its pupils, and is committed to the health and safety of its members.
- The school believes that its pupils want to receive information about drugs, and that pupils' preferred source of information is the school curriculum.
- The school acknowledges its responsibility to provide information and education about drugs and other harmful substances.
- The responsibility for the education of young people is shared with parents who should therefore be kept involved and informed at all times.
- The school condemns the misuse of drugs, solvents and alcohol by its members, and the illegal supply of these substances.

Aims

- To provide accurate information about potentially harmful substances.
- To develop understanding about related health and social issues, e.g. crime, addiction, HIV and AIDS.
- To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse of drugs.
- To help pupils to develop the personal and social skills, and the strategies needed to deal with situations involving drugs.
- To enable pupils to identify sources of appropriate personal support.

Drugs Education in the Nursery, Infants and Junior School

In our Nursery, Infants and Juniors we believe that Drug Education is a vital part of our PSHE sessions. We aim to give our pupils the knowledge, skills and confidence to understand the benefits and value of a healthy lifestyle. The Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco topic is part of our Mental Health and Wellbeing curriculum which we teach at an age-appropriate level to all of our pupils. We teach the children to understand how household substances and medicines can make us better but can also have negative consequences if used incorrectly. We look at common medicines and household products and move onto more harmful, but legal, substances such as smoking and alcohol at the end of Key Stage One. In Key Stage Two we also start to differentiate between positive risk-taking (e.g. trying a challenging new sport) and dangerous behaviour. We teach the children to start to identify when situations are becoming risky or unsafe; how they can start to take responsibility for their own safety and how to behave in an emergency.

Delivering Drugs Education in Senior School

- The aims will be achieved by:
 - providing pupils with honest and accurate information about the short and long-term effects of drugs on the mind and body
 - providing opportunities for pupils to acquire knowledge and understanding about the dangers of drug

misuse

- o enabling pupils who have concerns about the misuse of drugs to raise these concerns in a supportive and helpful environment
- o explaining the legal situation about the use and misuse of both legal and illegal drugs
- o providing information about help, support and agencies available for people who have problems with drugs.
- Drugs education aimed at reducing experimentation and use is delivered at regular intervals throughout the school, and takes account of the age and experience of the pupils.
- Drugs education is delivered through the Biology GCSE course with additional material taught through the PSHE curriculum core theme of ‘Health and Wellbeing’. Throughout the lower school we follow the ‘spiral curriculum’ approach in PSHE, which revisits drug topics each year at a different development stage.
- The curriculum will be delivered in a clear and honest manner.
- Pupils will be encouraged to participate actively and will be given opportunities to raise their own issues.
- The content of the drugs education programme will be supported with access to further advice and support for pupils beyond the classroom.
- Training for staff will be provided as necessary.

Incidents involving drugs in school will be dealt with as laid out in the school’s substance use/misuse policy.

The Role of Outside Agencies

The school actively co-operates with other agencies such as community police, social services, health and drug agencies to deliver its commitment to drugs education and to deal with incidents of substance use and misuse.

Drugs and Substance - Senior School Programme:

Year	Delivered by	Content
Year 7	PSHE Form tutors	<i>Healthy lifestyle choices including diet, dental health, physical activity and sleep and how to make healthy choices</i> <i>how to manage influences relating to caffeine, smoking and alcohol</i>
Year 8	PSHE Form Tutors Biology	<i>Managing peer influence relating to substance use, medicinal and recreational drugs, the over-consumption of energy drinks</i> <i>About the relationship between habit and dependence and how to assess the risks of alcohol, tobacco, nicotine and e-cigarettes.</i> <i>How to recognise and promote positive social norms and attitudes. Healthy lifestyle choices including diet, physical activity and sleep and how to recognise and promote positive social norms and attitudes towards one's own health.</i>
Year 9	PSHE Form Tutors	<i>Healthy lifestyle: Diet, exercise, lifestyle balance, healthy choices, body image, emotional wellbeing and mental first aid</i>

		<i>Peer influence, substance use and gangs: Healthy and unhealthy friendships, assertiveness, substance misuse, risks of carrying a knife and gang exploitation</i>
Year 10	Life Skills Biology	<i>Exploring influence and impact of drugs in increasingly independent scenarios, gangs, role models and the media. Evaluating the social and emotional risks of drug use.</i>
Year 11	Life Skills Biology	<i>Responsible health choices, and safety in independent contexts. Taking responsibility for one's health choices Debates and use of external agencies</i>
Year 12/13	Assemblies Form periods Visiting teachers	<i>Assemblies are delivered by an outside speaker from the local substance abuse and information team including 'drugs and alcohol' and, on a separate occasion, 'legal highs'. Form tutors will also discuss issues surrounding substance misuse during form period time</i>

Drugs Education policy reviewed: September 2022

Next Review Due: September 2023