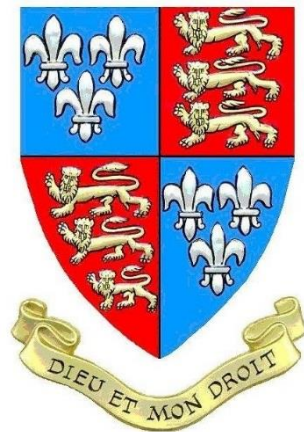


King Edward VI Grammar School



Drugs Policy

DRUG EDUCATION & DRUG INCIDENT POLICY

Rationale

The misuse of drugs is a growing problem nationally. Research suggests that a high proportion of young people experiment with drugs. It is the responsibility of the school, to assist in the process of reducing the harm caused by drugs. The school will do this by:

1. Organising a drugs education programme in school, and
2. Maintaining a system of pastoral care capable of providing help for those who misuse drugs.

Drugs can be defined as any substances that alter the mind or body. This policy is concerned with legal drugs such as energy drinks, alcohol, tobacco, over-the-counter and prescription drugs, such as tranquillizers, pain killers, new and emerging drugs ('legal highs') and illegal drugs such as MDMA ('ecstasy'), LSD, cannabis, cocaine, crack and heroin, and other drugs young people may use such as alkyl nitrites ('Poppers') and 'solvents'.

The PSHEE programme provides an appropriate vehicle for Drug Education. A planned and coordinated approach to PSHEE can provide an appropriate framework for drug education to take place, providing young people with consistent messages. PSHE Education can support vulnerable students for whom drugs are or may become problematic.

Aims of Drug Education

- To provide accurate information about legal and illegal substances and their harmful effects.
- To increase understanding about the implications and possible consequences of use and misuse of legal drugs, illegal drugs, medicines and volatile substances.
- To encourage understanding of the circumstances which lead to drug use.
- To widen understanding about related health and social issues, eg. sex and sexuality, crime, HIV/AIDS.
- To enable students to make healthy, informed choices by increasing knowledge and challenging attitudes.
- To seek to minimise the risks that users and potential users face.
- To enable young people to identify appropriate channels of personal support.
- To ensure students are taught about drugs in a consistent manner that is in line with guidance from DfES and derives input from parents, students, staff and governors.

These aims are fulfilled through aspects of the students' experiences in the taught curriculum, the informal curriculum and through opportunities for extra-curricular activities. We deliver drug education through the statutory Science curriculum and PSHEE areas. The School actively co-operates with other agencies such as the Police, LEA and Health and drug related agencies to deliver its commitment to drug education.

The Governor responsible for Drugs Education is Mrs Helen Dunning who is responsible for ensuring the updating, monitoring, evaluation and implementation of the policy and Mr Mark Hunkin (Vice Principal) has responsibility for oversight of the policy.

The School recognises its responsibility to ensure that staff are well prepared for delivering drugs education.

1. Drugs education is provided in the broader context of the teaching of health and personal and social education as part of a student's life skills and preparation for adulthood.
2. It takes account of the age, sex and cultural/social background of the students at which it is targeted.

3. It takes account of the local circumstances and culture of the community.
4. Students' prior knowledge is assessed in Year 7 before lessons are taught.

Responding to drug-related incidents

In all situations involving drugs the following principles apply:

- each situation will be carefully considered before determining the response
- the needs of the child will always be taken into consideration but will be set against the interests of the whole school community
- the pastoral system will be the first means of response, if at all possible
- parents/guardians will be involved as soon as possible, where appropriate
- support agencies including the police will be involved, if appropriate
- support for students will be maintained and counselling arranged, if appropriate
- responses may include both a disciplinary and a counselling response.

Responsible for Drugs Incidents: Mark Hunkin

Managing drug-related incidents

Parents / Carers and pupils have been informed that energy drinks are not to be brought on site. If seen, they are to be confiscated.

Incidents involving drugs and solvent misuse may take the form of emergencies, intoxication, discovery/observation, disclosure, and suspicion/rumour. This policy will consider responses to each of these situations.

Emergency situations

These are defined as any situation where a student is unconscious, or is likely to injure themselves or others, as a result of drug use. Two staff with current first-aid qualifications should be called. The person should not be left alone. The person should be placed in the recovery position, and an ambulance called. The parents should be informed. An assessment of the incident should be started, including determining whether a substance has been taken and evidence gathered. A report of the incident should be written down and given to the Headteacher and Head of Year and/or member of Leadership group.

Overdose

Where it is suspected or known that a child or young person has attempted suicide through an overdose of legal or illegal drugs they should be reported to the Head of Year and Vice Principal immediately, and arrangements should be made to take the child to Accident and Emergency for an examination even if the child or young person appear to be fine and in good health. An overdose can result in liver damage so must not be ignored.

Intoxication

The person will be removed to a quiet area and not left alone. The first aider and a senior member of staff called. The person should be helped to stay calm. Medical assistance should be sought if necessary. The parents will be informed and called to the school. A report of the incident should be written down and passed to the Headteacher and Head of Year.

Discovery/Observation

When a person is discovered using, supplying or holding a substance that is not permitted on school premises and which is described in this policy they should be apprehended and the substance confiscated, if possible. A senior member of staff should be called and the person(s) questioned. If the substance is illegal or if there is doubt about its identity the police should be contacted. All illegal substances will be stored in the Main Office safe

until they can be handed to police. Parents will be informed and called to the school. A report of the incident will be written down and passed to the Headteacher.

Confiscated drugs and/or suspected drugs are to be locked securely in the school safe by the Finance Manager, Joy Gibbons, until the substance/s have been removed.

Disclosure

The response to a student who discloses to a member of staff that he/she has been using drugs, or is concerned about someone else's drug use, is vital. Approaching the situation with anger or aggression is likely to make the student defensive and to inhibit discussion and treatment. It is now thought that 'most illegal drug use is experimental and can be 'nipped in the bud' by careful handling' (TACADE - The Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drug Education). Students will be informed that teachers cannot promise complete confidentiality, but that information will only be given to key people, who will then determine the appropriate response.

Suspicion/rumour

Staff who, on the basis of rumour or observation, suspect that a student is using drugs should report their fears to the appropriate Head of Year. An immediate assessment of the situation will take place, and a decision made regarding further action.

Guidelines for responses to drug related incidents

What to do if in the case of	Steps to follow:
An emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assess the situation and send for medical help • complete accident report
Intoxication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • follow first aid procedure if necessary • call member of Leadership Group • complete incident report
Suspicion and rumour of drug use or supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seek guidance from Head of Year and/or member of Leadership Group
Complaint or allegation of drug use, possession or supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seek guidance from Head of Year and/or member of Leadership Group before confronting student
Discovery or observation of drug use, possession or supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • call member of Leadership Group • complete incident report
Disclosure by student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inform Head of Year and/or member of Leadership Group • complete incident report
Parent/carer comes for advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • refer to Head of Year and/or member of Leadership Group
Suspected or known suicide attempt through overdose of drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • refer to Head of Year and/or member of Leadership Group to arrange for A&E examination. <p>(Symptoms of Paracetamol overdose can begin several hours after ingestion, with nausea, vomiting, sweating, and may not result in a loss of consciousness. Paracetamol Hepatotoxicity can be fatal</p>

1. In **all** circumstances a record in some form should be completed.
2. In all events consider the implications for child protection.
3. 'In loco parentis' - the School has to be seen to act in respect to an individual child as a reasonable caring parent would act.
4. A list of drug and alcohol support agencies is available in school.
5. These procedures are designed to be consistent with the Lincolnshire Drug Related Incidents Guidance, a copy of which is kept in the School Office.

Statement on the use of drugs in School

This school believes that the possession and use of drugs in school is inappropriate. None of the drugs covered by this policy - with the exception of prescribed medicines - are permitted to be brought to, sold, passed on or otherwise obtained on school premises or during official school trips and activities. These rules also apply to school staff and other adults working in and for the school apart from the use of alcohol at official school social events.¹

Situations that include the breaking of the school rules on drugs will result in punishment. The type of disciplinary response will depend on the extent, nature and degree of the offence. Permanent exclusion will be considered, but will be used only as a final resort, after other approaches have been used. The help of support services will be sought to ensure the welfare of the student(s) is safeguarded.

The supplying of, or dealing in, illegal substances will be viewed as a more serious matter, as will the possession of these substances in such quantity as to make it likely that supplying is the intention.

Staff Training

All staff who teach Drug Education are encouraged to undertake relevant training. As far as possible the PSHE Education Co-ordinator tries to maintain a stable 'team' of Health Education teachers who are dedicated to the subject and keen to maintain up to date expertise. Courses provided by the School Improvement Service are regularly attended, to ensure staff are aware of new resources, teaching ideas and changes in the law relating to drugs.

INSET:

Medicine

Staff are reminded and informed about Care Plans for students in an INSET in September. EpiPen Training is an annual INSET which is led by School Nurse and co-ordinated by Head of Learning Support, Tanya Branowsky.

Drugs Incidents

Staff are also trained in INSET about what signs to look for in students who may be under the influence of drugs or vulnerable to the use of drugs. All staff are updated on procedures involving such incidents and appropriate course of action.

Additional Guidance

Please refer to SCODA documents 'The Right Approach' and 'The Right Response', 'Protecting Young People' and Circular 10/99 Social Inclusion Pupil Support.

¹ See the Disciplinary Procedures for Staff

Links with Other Policies

Other policies which have a bearing on Drug Education and Drug Related Incidents include the Disciplinary Codes for Students, Disciplinary Procedures for Employees, PSHE Education, No Smoking & Healthy Eating Policies.

The Location of the Policy

A copy of this policy is kept in the 'Staff Handbook' on 'Desktop' where it can be inspected. There is an emphasis on the conditions outlined in this policy under 'Smoking, Drinking and Drug Abuse' and 'Exclusions' sections within the Student Planner which are accessible to children, young people, parents and carers.

Liaison and Continuity of the Policy

Continuity of Drug Education and school liaison is ensured through our work with the LEA and the County Drug Education Advisor, Mrs Jane Fletcher.

Drug Education Programme

Programme Methodology

Drug Education lessons are provided by specialist Health Education teachers, as part of a fortnightly Health Education course, but occasional extra workshops are provided as part of the fortnightly tutorial programme. There is a spiral curriculum in place from KS3 to KS5 which is informed by KS2 consultations to ensure a smooth transition.

All lessons begin with the teacher explaining the objectives of the lesson but, in other respects, there is a great variety of approaches and methods.

In Y7 and Y8 students are given specialist booklets for Drugs, Education lessons, eg. 'Drug Education – Smoking' and 'Drug Awareness'.

Students work individually, in pairs, and in groups. Discussion is a vital part of all year group lessons, for Y7 to Y11. Videos are used, where appropriate, see resources (overleaf), followed by discussion.

Role plays are also useful in developing students' understanding of issues, eg. 'Doctors Dilemma; Cannabis role play' in Y8.

Visiting speakers (see policy on visiting speakers in Sex and Relationships Education Policy, and the document, 'Meeting Points Guidelines for Visitors in Schools, Sept. 2003) include representatives from Lincolnshire Police (Y7 Drug Education in Secondary Schools programme) and Positive Health (Y10-11 Risky Behaviour). Pupils are able to examine the physical and psychological impact of legal and illegal drugs.

Drugs are also covered within the Biology curriculum in Year 10 with a focus on alcohol, cannabis and nicotine. In addition, students learn about how different types of medication, particularly, painkillers and antibiotics and how they work.

In addition, a school display is held annually by the School Nurse for 'No Smoking Day' in the Edward Street Hall.

Programme Resources

Videos used in 2010 - 2011:

Y7 : 'Under the Influence'

Y8	:	'Solvent Abuse'
Y9	:	'The A-Z of Drugs'
Y10	:	'Cannabis, the Evil Weed' (Horizon) & 'One Friday Night'
Y11	:	'Junk'

Outside speakers are also invited to contribute to the programme where it is felt that they can add value to the above and where their work is recommended.

Monitoring and Evaluation of Programme

All Drugs Education lessons are constantly reviewed and alterations made as new materials appear and become available and as a result of consultation with students, parents, the School Nurses, relevant outside agencies (eg. Police, Positive Health) and school governors and the suggestions of those teaching the course.

Students are asked to complete evaluations of their lessons and to comment on their general studies lessons (of which Drugs Education is a part) in their annual record of achievement/school report. Students are also encouraged to reflect on their tutor lessons during registration periods to assess their understanding and judgment of the lessons with a view to update later.

Consultations with Student Council are also conducted to gain insight into pupil opinion and to test the effectiveness of resources and the PSHEE Programme. This is used to inform subsequent programme planning.

Consultations regarding Drugs education are also conducted within in the PSHEE Focus group along with Sex and Relationships Education.

Information for Students

Students can also read latest literature on related issues in the Wolfson Library under the 'Citizenship' section and collect leaflets and information booklets from here.

In addition, the School Nurse is available every Wednesday lunch time in the Pavilion to discuss any issues students have.

Information for Parents.

Parents are invited to assess resources and consult with the PSHEE Coordinator about the PSHEE Programme and delivery. Consultations regarding drugs are addressed in the PSHEE Focus Group.

Further information for parents and students is available on the school website at www.kevigs.org, under 'Parents'. This provides links to key support agencies including FRANK, www.gosmokefree.co.uk, addaction.org.uk, <http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/parents/family-support/help-and-advice/>.

Result of consultations with staff:

MEDICINES: CARE PLANS are available on the staff file exchange under 'staff' 'learning support', 'all learning support', 'medical', 'students' folders which contain a list of emergency procedures for all the conditions that affect students in the school.

Care Plans have also been developed for all those students vulnerable to anaphylactic shocks with details from school nurse, hospitals and parents.

General Medication

General medication such as painkillers are not to be provided by any member of staff. If students have their own painkillers, they can keep them with them.

If students come with a Risk Assessment and with the consent of parents / carers, medication for the pupil is stored securely in the Medical Room.

Spare Inhalers which have been prescribed to students are held securely in the Medical Room with clear labels indicating name of the pupil it belongs to. EpiPens are also labeled with names of the students they belong to and kept in the Main Office. All students who have a Care Plan will carry an EpiPen around the school with them in case of emergency. All staff are reminded about this annually during INSET and shown a demonstration on how to use it by the School Nurse. Also, students vulnerable to anaphylactic shock also carry a card in their top pocket, so staff can easily identify need for EpiPen.