

LANGLEY SCHOOL **DRUG EDUCATION POLICY**

“Drug Education is just as necessary for pupils with special needs. Children with learning difficulties may need more help than others in understanding what sorts of behaviour are and are not acceptable and desirable in resisting peer group pressure and in developing the confidence and skills to resist drugs. Where pupils are taking prescribed medication they will need to distinguish between appropriate and inappropriate drugs.” DfE 4/95

Drug Education at Langley School will be continuous, progressive and relevant to the needs and interests of the children. It will be written into schemes of work for both science and PSHE and will be taught in all year groups, at the appropriate level for the child.

Definition

A drug is defined as “a substance that people take to change the way they feel, think or behave”.

This policy will encompass all drugs, both legal and illegal:

- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Other legal drugs (caffeine, cleaning products)
- Prescribed medication
- Over the counter medicines
- Illegal drugs (e.g. cannabis, LSD and so on)

Aims

The aims for Drug Education at Langley School are as follows:

- To create a healthy working environment
- To raise awareness of prescribed and non-prescribed medication and how to use these safely
- To increase the understand of the effects of drugs on the body
- To introduce the laws surrounding drug misuse
- Develop pupils’ personal and social skills to make informed decisions and keep themselves safe
- To raise awareness of drugs and harmful substances in their environment, including cleaning products
- To be able to ask for support if unsure
- To resist peer pressure by having the confidence to say “no”

Organisation

The teaching of Drug Education at Langley School will be taught in a sensitive and non-judgmental way taking account of the different backgrounds, beliefs and culture of the children and their families. The programme should be sufficiently flexible to respond to children’s needs.

‘Drug Education’ starts in the Foundation Stage at an appropriate level for our children, for instance, our role-play doctors surgery and teaching the children about medicines we might need when we are unwell and joining in with rhymes like ‘Miss Polly had a dolly’.

Drug Education will be closely linked with Science and the non statutory guidance for PSHE and Citizenship. It will endeavour to provide the children with the skills to make informed judgements and have the confidence to stand up for what they believe in. In key stage 1 the children will be taught about the roles of medicine in the science curriculum (Sc2 2d). In key stage 2 they will learn about the effect on the human body of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs and how these relate to their personal health (Sc2 2g).

In PSHE and Citizenship at key stage 1 they will be taught how all household products, including medicines, can be harmful if not used properly (3f). In key stage 2 they will be taught which commonly available substances and drugs are legal and illegal, their effects and risks (3d).

Resources

Information packs, posters and books are located centrally and are continually reviewed and expanded. The school subscribes to Birmingham's Health Education Resource Unit and can borrow appropriate resources from there. School has relevant contact details for agencies supporting drug related incidents.

The Life Education Centre Bus is an annual feature of our curriculum. The emphasis is upon the involvement of the children highlighting the effect which any items we take into our body can be expected to have upon it.

Parents are also invited to visit the bus and discuss with the course leader both the content of the curriculum and their own concerns about drugs in the community.

Visitors and Outside Agencies

When it is relevant to involve workers from outside agencies to offer support to teachers, care should be taken to ensure that they understand the emotional and intellectual level of our children. They should also be made aware of this Policy. They may need advice to help them to communicate at an appropriate level. Such agencies will be suggested by the PSHE subject manager in consultation with the Senior Leadership Team.

The session should be carefully planned and the class teacher should remain present during the session in order to observe the children's reactions, which will inform the preparation of follow-up work.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The provision of Drug Education at Langley will be monitored by the PSHE and Science Managers in consultation with the Assistant Head Teachers.

This Policy has been written in consultation with parents and governors. The Policy will be reviewed bi-annually.

Reviewed June 2016