



Moorlands Primary School

High Expectations, High Achievements, Challenge and Enjoyment for All

POLICY FOR DRUGS EDUCATION

Name of Policy Writer/Amendments	Date Written/Amended	Next Review Date	Approved by Governors	committee
Becky Freeman	July 2016	July 2017	7/7/16	
Becky Freeman	July 2017	July 2019	17/7/17	
Becky Freeman	July 2019	July 2020	12/7/19	
Becky Freeman	June 2020	June 2021	June 2020	S & A
Becky Freeman	June 2021	June 2022	July 2021	S&A
Becky Freeman	June 2022	June 2024	July 2022	
Becky Freeman	July 2024	July 2026	July 2024	
Becky Freeman	April 2026	April 2028	April 2026	

1. Statement of Intent

Moorlands Primary School recognises the importance of high-quality drugs education as part of a broad and balanced curriculum. We are committed to equipping children with the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to make informed, responsible and safe choices, leading to healthy lifestyles now and in the future.

Drugs education at Moorlands Primary School aims to help children develop confidence, resilience and sound decision-making skills, whilst understanding the risks and consequences associated with drug misuse. Teaching is delivered in an age-appropriate, inclusive and sensitive manner, taking account of pupils' needs, backgrounds and experiences.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's PSHE Policy, Relationships and Health Education Policy, Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, Behaviour Policy and Health and Safety Policy.

2. Aims and Objectives

Through our drugs education programme, we aim to:

- Provide accurate, age-appropriate information about drugs, including illegal drugs, legal drugs (such as alcohol and tobacco), medicines and household substances
- Increase pupils' understanding of the effects and risks of drugs on physical health, mental well-being, relationships and safety
- Enable children to explore moral, social and personal issues related to drug use in a safe and supportive learning environment
- Develop pupils' confidence, resilience and skills to resist peer pressure
- Ensure pupils understand how to keep themselves safe and know what to do if they encounter drugs or are worried about drug use
- Promote respect for their own bodies and the bodies of others
- Deliver consistent messages agreed by staff, governors and parents/carers

3. What We Mean by Drugs

The term *drugs* refers to a wide range of substances, including:

- **Medicines:** prescribed and over-the-counter drugs used responsibly or misused
- **Legal drugs:** including alcohol, tobacco, vapes and caffeine
- **Illegal drugs:** substances controlled by law
- **Other harmful substances:** including solvents, aerosols and household chemicals

4. Teaching and Learning

Drugs education is delivered primarily through the Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education curriculum and is reinforced through other curriculum areas where appropriate, such as science and assemblies.

Teaching is:

- Age-appropriate and matched to pupils' understanding
- Inclusive and respectful of different backgrounds and circumstances
- Carefully planned to correct misconceptions and build on prior knowledge
- Designed to promote discussion, critical thinking and personal reflection

Teaching methods may include discussion, role play, stories, videos and scenario-based learning. Ground rules are established to ensure a safe learning environment.

5. Curriculum Content

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Pupils learn to:

- Understand what is safe and unsafe
- Begin to know how to look after their bodies
- Learn about people who help keep them safe

Key Stage 1

Pupils learn:

- That medicines can help people when used correctly
- That they must never take medicines unless given by a trusted adult
- Basic information about harmful substances and safety

Key Stage 2

Pupils learn:

- More detailed information about medicines, alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs
- How drugs can affect health, behaviour and decision-making
- About peer pressure and strategies to resist it
- How to seek help and report concerns

6. Assessment and Monitoring

Pupils' understanding is assessed informally through discussion, activities and teacher assessment within PSHE lessons.

The PSHE subject leader monitors the delivery of drugs education through:

- Curriculum planning reviews
- Lesson observations where appropriate
- Feedback from staff and pupils

7. Management of Drugs and Drug-Related Incidents

The school does not permit the possession, use or supply of illegal drugs on school premises.

If a drug-related incident occurs:

- The safety of all pupils and staff is the priority
- The incident will be managed in line with the school's Behaviour Policy and Safeguarding and Child Protection procedures
- Parents/carers will be informed as appropriate
- Advice will be sought from external agencies where necessary

Medicines are managed in line with the school's Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy.

8. Safeguarding and Confidentiality

Drugs education is delivered within a safeguarding framework. Pupils are made aware that:

- Teachers cannot promise absolute confidentiality
- Any safeguarding concerns will be shared with the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Any disclosure or concern relating to drug use will be managed in accordance with the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

9. Partnership with Parents and Carers

We recognise the important role parents and carers play in drugs education. The school will:

- Inform parents/carers about the drugs education curriculum
- Provide opportunities for parents/carers to discuss concerns or ask questions
- Encourage consistent messages between home and school

10. Equality and Inclusion

This policy applies to all pupils. Teaching and resources are adapted as necessary to ensure all pupils, including those with special educational needs or disabilities, can access and benefit from drugs education.