



GREAT ECCLESTON COPP
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL



DRUG EDUCATION
POLICY

Reviewed and Updated on July 2019

Copp Cares

"Let us love, not in word, but in truth and action." (1 John 3:18)

Talk to me and I will listen, show me and I will remember,
Involve me and I will learn, encourage me and I will thrive.

Copp, the village school, where everyone is special and where God will help us grow.

Copp School is committed to the health and safety of its children and staff and will take action to safeguard their well-being. We aim to stimulate the desire to explore and learn in preparation for life in developing independence, confidence and self-esteem. We will actively discourage the use of illegal substances and the misuse of glues, solvents, prescribed and over the counter medicines.

This policy has been written following guidance from the Government's National Drugs Strategy, DfE and Lancashire Healthy Schools' programme. It reflects the need for a clear, consistent and balanced approach to drug education and incident management in light of the increase in availability, range and prevalence of drugs.

Definitions of Substances

The term 'drug' refers to:

- Legal substances such as alcohol, tobacco, solvents and aerosol propellants
- Medicines - prescription and over the counter
- Illegal substances such as those covered by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 e.g. Cannabis, Ecstasy, Cocaine

The term 'drug use' within a primary school context refers to:

- Certain prescribed medicines allowed into school on a long or short-term basis with the written consent of parents/guardians
- Non prescription medicines allowed into school with the written consent of parents/guardians
- Using drugs such as glue on school premises provided it is for their proper, intended purpose

The term 'drug misuse' within a primary school context refers to:

- Pupils possessing and using legal drugs such as alcohol or tobacco
- Pupils using legal drugs such as glue in a dangerous manner i.e. sniffing
- Pupils possessing or using illegal drugs on the school premises

Aims

- To create a positive climate in which teaching and learning take place where pupils feel comfortable to discuss their perceptions of drug use and explore their attitudes towards drugs
- To develop knowledge and understanding of drugs, how they are used/misused and their effects, good and bad
- To encourage pupils to develop healthy lifestyles
- To enable pupils to recognise positive and negative influences on their lives now and in the future
- To develop pupils ability to make decisions and assess risks

It is widely believed that drug education should start at least two to three years before the likely age of experimentation. Therefore at Copp the learning objectives are:

Foundation Stage

Pupils are taught:

- about the importance of good health, including ways to keep healthy and safe (Physical Development/Health and Self-care)

Key Stage One

Pupils are taught:

- about the role of drugs as medicines (PSHE)
- how to keep healthy (Science and PSHE)
- that all household products, including medicines, can be harmful if not used properly (PSHE)

Key Stage Two

Pupils are taught:

- about the effects on the human body of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs and how these relate to their personal health (PSHE)
- which commonly available substances and drugs are legal and illegal, their effects and risks (PSHE)

Visitors and Outside Agencies

Other pertinent visitors may be brought in as and when necessary.

Confidentiality

Copp School has a confidentiality policy which is clear and agreed.

With regard to pupils providing staff with information, the following applies:

- pupils should be aware of the boundaries of confidence before disclosures are made
- staff should never offer absolute confidentiality as information may need to be passed to other staff members and/or outside agencies

Dealing with drug related incidents

All drug related incidents will be dealt with in a serious but sensitive manner. Each incident will be investigated thoroughly based upon the evidence and circumstances. A close working relationship will be maintained with outside agencies and advice sought when necessary.

All staff will be aware of and use the following agreed procedures:

- ensure the well being of the child/children
- ensure any medication for individual use is kept in a suitable place
- inform the Headteacher
- investigate and obtain relevant information and/or substances
- contact parents/guardians
- where necessary seek advice from outside agencies (where illegal substances are involved, outside agencies will automatically be informed)
- record all incidents (see sheet at the end of the Policy)
- apply sanctions, support and/or education to ensure the well being of the school community

Pastoral Support

Copp acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role and will support all concerned in ensuring the well being of its pupils and staff.

Drug Misusing Parent

Children of drug using parents are identified as an at risk group. However, drug use by parents does not in itself indicate child neglect or abuse.

Advice will be sought from an appropriate agency prior to any action being taken in school. Issues of confidentiality would be carefully considered.

Health and Safety

The Health and Safety of children, adults and visitors in Copp School is the immediate responsibility of all members of staff and ultimately that of the Governing Body, which has a Health and Safety Committee.

As a staff we have agreed to be aware of and report on Health and Safety issues as they arise.

It is our responsibility to:

- care for classroom equipment e.g. keep glue, felt pens and marker pens out of reach when not in use
- follow safety precautions when storing cleaning chemicals, equipment etc.
- frequently remind children about safety precautions and procedures
- check the playground and school area for drug related hazards e.g. cleaning materials out of place, discarded syringes, alcohol bottles or cans
- provide a first aider and know the location of the first aid box
- encourage healthy life styles at every opportunity

Training

The Head teacher will ensure that all staff are adequately supported and trained.

Details of relevant courses will be made available, as will opportunities for INSET training.

Head teacher and Governing Body

The Head teacher takes overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation, for liaison with the Governing Body, LA, parents and agencies.

It is hoped that with staff, governors, parents and children working together, we can safeguard the well-being of all pupils in our care by educating them about the dangers of drug abuse and teaching them how to live a healthy lifestyle.