ST.ANNE'S COPP CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, GREAT ECCLESTON

DRUG, ALCOHOL AND SMOKING POLICY

(INCLUDING VAPING)



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

October 2026

Approved by GB: October 2026
Next review due: October 2027

In building solid foundations for every unique individual and putting God's love at the centre of all we do, our children learn to embrace our diverse world. We encourage our children to learn universally in order to understand our heritage and roots as a village, town, region and nation. Through strong community links, our children grow in compassion and understanding, promote justice and possess commitment and aspire to make a positive difference. We offer an ambitious curriculum that ignites curiosity along with high personal expectations that fosters resilience and which enables them to flourish. Our children are easily distinguished by the courage they show when making brave choices and understand the importance of becoming the very best versions of themselves.

St Anne's 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, DE and Lancashire Healthy Schools programme. It reflects the need for a clear, consistent and balanced approach to drug (including alcohol) education and incident management in light of the increase in availability, range and prevalence of drugs.

As a school, we are committed to creating a smoke/vape free environment. We aim to ensure a whole-school approach to smoking /vaping that protects all members of the school community from the harms of second-hand smoke and to prevent the uptake of, and reduce the prevalence of, smoking/vaping across the school community

<u>Definitions</u>
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 ie sniffing
- Pupils possessing er 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, tobacco and alcohol
- To develop knowledge and understanding of drugs, tobacco, vaping and alcohol and 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 St Anne's Copp School, 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 (Science and SHE)
- 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)

Smoking/Vaping

As it is a legal requirement, no smoking/vaping shall be permitted on the school property at anytime. There are NO designated smoking areas provided within the school premises. This policy will be reviewed in the event of a change in relevant legislation.

This policy applies to employees, pupils, parents, visitors, members of the public, contractors and others working or using the school's premises.

Visitors and Outside Agencies
Other pertinent visitors may be brought in to help deliver the curriculum, as and when necessary.

Confidentiality
If a pupil provides information to a staff member, staff members will not 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
- apply sanctions, support and/or education to ensure the well-being of the school community

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.

Pastoral Support

St Anne's Copp School acknowledges the importance of its pastoral role and will support all concerned in ensuring the well-being of its pupils and staff.

Health and Safety

The Health and Safety of children, adults and visitors at St Anne's Copp School is the immediate responsibility of all members of staff, and ultimately, that of the Governing Body.

Staff have agreed to be aware of, and report on, Health and Safety issues as they arise.

It is our responsibility to:

- 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 lifestyles 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.

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

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