



## Drugs Policy

<b>UN Convention on the Rights of the Child</b>	
Article 33	You have the right to be protected from harmful; drugs and from the drug trade.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- PSHE curriculum and policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding policies
- Behaviour Policy
- Lettings Policy

### School' Commitment

Cranford Park CE Primary School is committed to the health and safety of our children and staff and will take action to safeguard their well-being. We will actively discourage the use of illegal substances and the misuse of glue, solvents, and prescribed, so called 'legal highs' and over-the-counter medicines.

### Policy content

This policy deals with:

- the drugs education programme;
- the management of drug-related incidents – including legal substances that can be misused including so called 'legal highs' or illegal substances.

### Drugs education programme

The aim of the drugs education programme is to:

- enable children to become accurately informed of the effects - good or bad - of drugs on health and make informed healthy choices
- make children aware of the legal aspects of drug-taking
- develop in children the ability to identify risks and help others to do so
- enhance children's decision-making skills and self-esteem
- enable children to communicate and discuss drug-related issues
- enable children to assert themselves and resist peer pressure
- explore attitudes.

Drug education will be part of the Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme through Jigsaw and additional activities as available and appropriate.

In KS1 and Lower KS2, children will learn about general issues with regard to medicines and keeping healthy. In years 5 and 6, children will be taught about the use and misuse of drugs. Throughout the school, children will take part in activities which aim to develop their self-confidence, understanding of risks and pressures, as well as assertiveness.

### Management of drug-related incidents

Where a child is found in possession of cigarettes, alcohol, glue, solvents or any other inappropriate substance, these will be confiscated, parents will be informed and appropriate steps taken in line with our behaviour policy.

Hearsay or suspicion that a pupil might be engaged in substance misuse or other concerns should be reported to the Headteacher and further investigated, generally in collaboration with parents.

If there is a reasonable suspicion that a child has brought inappropriate substances into school, staff will try to persuade the child to produce voluntarily the substance by asking them to turn out their pockets or bag. Staff reserve the right to search a child's property if the child refuses to comply. Any searches will be carried out with the express permission of the Head Teacher, or in their absence, with the permission of the Deputy Head Teacher. Any searches will be carried out in accordance with the latest DfE Guidelines. Parents will always be notified.

In an emergency arising from an incident involving substance abuse, the well-being of the child is paramount and all steps will be taken to ensure the child's wellbeing.

The misuse of drugs is a serious matter and, in the event of any serious incident, the school will consult the police. The school's Designated Safeguarding Lead will also be informed and will decide on any additional steps that need to be taken. This could involve a referral to the police and/or to children's services.

All incidents or concerns will be logged by the head teacher or appropriate member of the leadership team. The Full Governing Body will receive a report on any significant issues as part of the head teacher's report on behaviour.

#### Pastoral Support

At Cranford Park Primary, the school takes its pastoral role seriously. We will aim to support all those concerned in any incident.

#### Staff development

All staff will be informed of this policy and their own responsibilities.

All staff need to:

- Understand and support the rationale and aims of drugs and substance education;
- Beware of the legal implications and their responsibilities;
- Before teaching any unit of work on drugs and substance misuse, check their own understanding is up to date and ensure that their teaching is in accordance with current laws and guidance;
- Ensure that they understand and have read the programmes of study for the age groups they teach;
- Check with the Head Teacher or a member of the SLT for further guidance if needed.

#### Tobacco, Vapes and alcohol

The school has a non-smoking/vaping policy and smoking/vaping on the premises is prohibited.

The school recognises that there are occasions when the school premises are used outside of school hours for social occasions when it will be acceptable for alcoholic drinks to be consumed, subject to local bylaws. However, alcohol should not be consumed on school premises without the express permission of the headteacher on each occasion.

Staff should pay heed to our code of conduct at all times.

**Last reviewed:** September 2025

**Next review:** September 2028