



## DRUGS POLICY

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

### Schools' 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 and Citizenship programme and will be supported by each school's participation in the Getting It Right initiative involving visits by school liaison officers from Hampshire Constabulary.

In the infant and lower junior years, 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 & 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, parents will be informed and appropriate steps taken.

Hearsay or suspicion that a pupil might be engaged in substance misuse or other concerns should be reported to the Headteacher and, if deemed serious, should be entered into a log.

If there is a reasonable suspicion that a child has brought inappropriate substances into school, staff will not search a child's property or person, but will try to persuade the child to produce voluntarily the substance by asking him/her to turn out his/her pockets or bag. Any searches will be carried out with the express permission of the Head Teacher, or in their absence, with the permission of the Deputy/Assistant Head Teacher. Any searches will be carried out in accordance with the latest DfE Guidelines.

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 safety.

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

All incidents or concerns will be logged by the head teacher or appropriate member of the leadership team. The Full Governing Body will receive an annual report on drugs related issues as part of the head teacher's report.

#### Pastoral Support

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

## 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 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 and alcohol

The school has a non-smoking policy and smoking on the premises is prohibited (this includes e-cigarettes).

The bringing of alcohol to the school premises and its consumption are prohibited. However, the school recognises that there are occasions when the school premises are used outside school hours for social occasions when it will be acceptable for alcoholic drinks to be consumed, subject to local bylaws.

*The Governing Body believes that fairness and consistency of judgement is essential to the operation of the school. All members of the school have equality of opportunity to achieve their full potential and will not be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, race, or religion. The Governing Body believes that the school always has to be aware of the potential for unconscious discrimination, to avoid assumptions about individual members of the school based on stereotypes and to use the teaching and learning arrangements actively to encourage everyone to achieve their full potential. All our policies are consistent with our duty of care to protect our pupils and to provide a learning environment that is safe and healthy. In all our dealings, we respect the strict code of confidentiality that underpins our school ethos.*

**Agreed/reviewed:** November 2011  
October 2016  
October 2019  
**Next review:** October 2024