



Stockham Primary School Drugs Policy: 2022 - 2024

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Reviewed by:	Full Governing Body
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Next Review Date:	October 2024

INTRODUCTION

At Stockham School we acknowledge that drugs affect all communities in modern society. Our philosophy is to provide a supportive and nurturing environment in which all children are encouraged to develop their knowledge, skills and attitudes and understanding about drugs. We also strive to educate the children to appreciate the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

We have a moral and legal obligation to the children in our care to address the sensitive issue of drugs and to ensure that we do all we can to:

- Inform children, parents and staff about the risks and consequences of drug misuse which should be linked to other substances including alcohol, tobacco and solvents.
- Teach children the skills needed to resist pressure to misuse drugs.
- Help make the misuse of drugs less culturally acceptable to young people including the use of effective and targeted national and local publicity and information.
- Promote healthy lifestyles and positive activities not involving drugs and other substance misuse.
- Build on and disseminate good practice in identifying what works best in prevention and education.

DEFINITION

At Stockham School a drug is defined as 'a substance people take to change the way they think, feel or behave'. This definition includes both illegal and legal substances including alcohol, tobacco and over the counter and prescription medicines

RATIONALE

It is acknowledged that our school plays an important role in tackling Drugs Education and the issue of drug misuse by providing appropriate learning opportunities and pastoral support to all children. We recognise that some drugs have beneficial effects, but also that every drug has potential harm. For this reason, all drugs need responsible care and management. In order to be able to make informed choices, staff and children need to understand the nature of drugs, their social and legal status and their uses and effects.

AIMS

It is our aim to help all children to be able to take their place in society where a wide range of drugs exist. At Stockham School we will aim through implicit and explicit learning experiences to:

- Increase children's knowledge of the dangers of smoking, alcohol abuse, the use of solvents and drug abuse.
- Help children to understand the beneficial part drugs play in society.
- Teach children that all medicines are drugs but not all drugs are medicines.
- Educate children to make informed choices and decisions.
- Teach strategies to help children resist pressure from their peers.

Effective teaching of Drugs Education will increase children's knowledge of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs and will also enable children to:

- Improve their self-esteem and self-confidence.

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- Make informed choices and decisions.
- Recognise personal skills and qualities in themselves and others.
- Maintain and develop relationships.
- Develop assertiveness in appropriate situations.
- Develop the motivation to succeed.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Drug education will be taught mainly through two subject areas:

1. Science Under the National Curriculum all schools should teach the following:
 - Key Stage 2: pupils will be taught to recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function
2. PSHE (Jigsaw Scheme):
 - Healthy Me Piece 5

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Drugs Education can:

- Address children's individual needs.
- Increase access to the curriculum.
- Enhance learning skills and develop previous knowledge.

Drugs Education is an important aspect of Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) and for children with SEN the curriculum needs to be specific to their needs. These children may be at greater risk than others who are more aware of the potential dangers involved. These children may be taking medication, and it is therefore important to stress the distinction between the importance of the medical benefits and drug misuse. The curriculum should equip these young people with the life skills required to cope with the potential dangers.

MEDICINES

Stockham School follows the recommendations of the Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions (2015) [Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions](#)

We will:

- Keep an up-to-date list of children taking prescribed drugs, e.g. for asthma or diabetes. This is circulated to each member of staff in class registers and on a board in the staff room.
- Ensure the parents notify the class teacher in writing if any medicines need to be taken within school hours.
- Ensure class teachers only administer medicines in which permission has been recorded in writing by the parent/carers and in which the prescription is clearly written on the bottle/packet. A medicine administration form must also be completed within the class medicine folder.
- Store medicines out of the reach of children and in the appropriate conditions, e.g. in the fridge.
- Ensure that trained adults only use the named adrenalin injection packs for children suffering from a severe allergic reaction. These are stored in the medical room out of the

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reach of children and in a secure container. Supply Teachers are informed of this on the Supply Teachers' Information Sheet.

EXTERNAL GUIDANCE

Stockham School actively cooperates and seeks support with other agencies such as the Thames Valley Police, Social and Health Care Services, Local Authority, Health and other appropriate Drug Agencies to deliver our commitment to Drugs Education and to manage incidents of drug use and misuse. In our planning, delivery and responses to drug issues we take careful account of LA and national guidance, in particular Drugs: Guidance for DfE and ACPO Drug Advice for Schools (2012) [Drug advice for schools](#)

DRUGS MANAGEMENT

Stockham School aims to:

- Establish and maintain an environment in which the school is free from the misuse of any drugs.
- Clarify the appropriate procedures in the management of drug related incidents
- Reduce situations of risk for the majority.
- Defer future occurrences.
- Respond to any individual in the school community in need of support.

DRUGS ON THE SCHOOL PREMISES

The legal definition of a school premises includes anything within the property boundaries including the buildings, outbuildings, playgrounds and fields. It also extends to other settings such as vehicles, marquees or any venue managed by the school at the time, e.g. premises of a school trip or visit.

ILLEGAL DRUGS, SMOKING AND ALCOHOL ON THE SCHOOL PREMISES

All illegal substances are forbidden on the premises. The school is designated a 'No Smoking' area for staff and visitors and we look to everyone including parents/carers to support this policy. If children or adults are found to be smoking on the school site the Head Teacher must be notified immediately and appropriate action will be taken.

Alcohol may only be consumed on the school premises for events organised by members of staff, governors or the FOS which take place after the end of the school day. Verbal permission must be obtained from the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) prior to the event. The organisers are responsible for ensuring that all those consuming alcohol are over the age of 18.

To protect the health and safety of the school community regular checks will be made of the school site to ensure that drug paraphernalia, in particular needles and syringes, are cleared away safely and legally should the school site be accessed inappropriately after school hours or during school holidays.

The school will ensure that potentially hazardous substances are stored safely and children will be supervised if it is necessary that they come into contact with them in the course of their work. Children are not permitted to be in possession of sniffable products.

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DRUG RELATED INCIDENTS

The misuse of any drug is regarded as a drugs related incident. Staff should inform the Head Teacher who will then assess the school's legal requirements which may include the involvement of outside agencies. All incidents must be recorded on an incident form.

In each case a child's record and circumstances should be taken into account. Their age the substances involved, the location of the incident, the nature of the offence and the attitude of the child should be acknowledged and the school should then assess what help and support can be offered.

The consequences of such incidents involving children will follow broadly the same procedures as laid down in the school Behaviour Policy. If incidents involve illegal drugs the Head Teacher will follow the guidance set out in DfE and ACPO Drug Advice for Schools (2012)

PROCEDURES FOR STAFF

The Head Teacher takes the overall responsibility for managing any incidents and for liaising with other organisations like the police and social services. The Head should be notified immediately of any evidence of drug/substance misuse. At Stockham School:

Any staff finding evidence should assess whether it is safe to retrieve themselves or whether the Head should be called to make the necessary arrangements. Children should be kept away as a first priority.

The Head Teacher may keep such evidence for police to collect and may pass on information to the police about drug/substance related activities by parents/carers or children.

The Head Teacher will investigate any report by staff about any child suspected of involvement with drug/substance misuse. Parents may be notified and the doctor or school nurse may also be notified.

Any records of such incidents will be placed in a separate confidential file and kept in the Head Teacher's office. The Head will decide if this information should be passed on to the next school.

The consequences of drug related incidents involving children would broadly follow the same procedures as written in the school's Behaviour Policy. This policy also relates to our Child Protection Policy.

Version History

Version	Date	Description of Changes -
1.0	October 2022	Issuance of the policy