

Morville Primary School



Policy:

Drug & Alcohol

Last Review: Spring 2018

Responsible: Sue Blackburn

Review Date: Spring 2021

Statement of intent

Morville Primary School takes a zero tolerance approach to the misuse of drugs and alcohol on our premises. This policy has been developed in conjunction with DfE guidance to ensure that everyone is aware of the risks posed by the misuse of drugs and alcohol.

We are committed to:

- Upholding the **Health and Safety Policy** already in place at the school.
- Providing a safe and healthy environment which is conducive to the education of the children in the school.
- Providing a robust policy which outlines our zero tolerance approach to drugs and alcohol misuse.
- Developing and improving the policy by reviewing it after any incident.
- Educating pupils on the dangers of drug and alcohol misuse.

Aims and Objectives

Current National Guidance states that the purpose of drug education should be;

- To give young people the knowledge, skills and attitudes to appreciate the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and relate them to their own actions, both now and in their future life.
- To provide accurate and up to date information on drugs and their effects on health, and on the risks and legal aspects of drug taking so that pupils are enabled to distinguish fact from myth.

Furthermore drug education should introduce opportunities to enhance pupils' self respect, personal competence and self esteem by enabling them to:

- Make informed decisions and choices
- Develop personal initiative and be able to take responsibility
- Recognise personal skills and qualities in themselves and others
- Maintain and develop relationships
- Develop self-confidence and improve self-esteem
- Develop assertiveness in appropriate situations
- Develop the motivation to succeed

At Morville Primary School the whole-school approach to drug education supports this purpose and the implementation is set up to fulfil these aims. We aim to extend the child's knowledge of themselves and the world they live in, by providing a caring, secure and supportive environment. We hope that children will make informed choices as a result of this policy.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to relevant legislation and guidance, including, but not limited to the following:

- DfE (2016) 'Keeping children safe in education'
- The Children and Families Act 2014
- The Education Act 2011
- The Health Act 2006

This policy will be implemented in conjunction with the school's:

- Screening, Searches and Confiscation Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Health and Safety Policy

- PSHE Policy
- Administering Medication Policy
- COSHH Policy

2. Key roles and responsibilities

The **headteacher** is responsible for dealing with any alcohol and drug related issues within the school.

3. Definitions

Morville Primary School defines a “drug” as any substance which, when ingested alters perception and the way the body works. This definition includes, but is not limited to:

- All Illegal substances
- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Solvents
- Medicines
- Legal highs

4. Staff training

At Morville Primary School, we recognise that early intervention can prevent drug misuse. As such, teachers will receive training in identifying pupils who may be at risk.

Teachers and support staff will receive formal drug training during their induction process.

Teachers and support staff will receive regular and ongoing training as part of their professional development.

5. Drug education

All pupils will receive regular guidance on drugs and alcohol as part of the citizenship and science curriculum.

Drugs and alcohol will feature regularly as part of pastoral education in the form of classes and assemblies.

Lessons will be delivered as appropriate to the age and phase of the pupils and will be differentiated according to individual learning styles.

Where appropriate, visitors and external speakers will join us to lead classes on drug and alcohol misuse.

Implementation

At Morville Primary School, a coherent and continuous drug education programme operates as part of the whole school approach to PSHE, with some input in each year of the school. Drugs education permeates the whole curriculum and is part of the National Healthy Schools Programme, facilitating continuity and progression.

Each child will have access to drug education, regardless of gender, ability or race.

Access will be matched to their particular needs or concerns of the class. Children with special educational needs or who have English as an additional language will be given additional support (from their assigned supporting adult or from additional adults if available), to understand the effects and misuse of drugs. Follow-up discussions in class will endeavour to consolidate the children's understanding and learning and be an opportunity for any children to raise queries or ask further questions. Children will be made aware of the effects of drugs for the individual, the family and the wider community.

Programme of Study

'A drug is any substance which, when taken, has the effect of altering the way a person behaves, feels, sees or thinks'.

The following outlines topics covered:

Key Stage 1

Knowledge and Understanding

- Basic information about how the body works, what goes onto and into the body, and ways of looking after the body.
- Safe and unsafe substances used in the home and school, and simple safety rules.
- Medicines and tablets, the reasons people use them, simple safety rules and school rules.
- People who are involved with medicines and drugs (e.g. health professionals, chemists, shopkeepers).
- People who can help pupils when they have questions or concerns.
- Introduction to the drugs which pupils may encounter and an understanding that all drugs can be harmful if not used properly.

Skills

- Personal likes and dislikes.
- Being friends with others.
- Communicating feelings and concerns about illness and taking medicines.
- Following simple safety instructions. E.g. actions which pupils need to take to keep themselves and others safe.
- When and how to get help from adults.
- Knowing how to say 'NO'.

Attitudes

- Respect and caring for oneself and valuing the uniqueness of one's own body.
- Respect and caring for others.
- Realising that it is sometimes appropriate and important to say 'NO'.
- Realising that adults or older children are not always 'friends'.

Key Stage 2

Knowledge and Understanding

- More detailed information about the body, how it works and how to keep it healthy.
- Different types of medicine (prescribed and over the counter), the value and life-saving qualities of some drugs; safety procedures when using medicines.
- Caffeine, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs pupils are likely to encounter, their general effects on the body and on behaviour, and the associated risks of drug taking.
- School rules relating to medicines, alcohol, tobacco, solvents and other drugs.
- Consideration of why some people take drugs.
- People who might persuade pupils to take drugs, including friends, known adults, peers, older children, stereotypical images.
- Identifying and understanding pressures and influences.
- Dangers from handling discarded drugs related equipment.
- Simple first aid.
- People who can help pupils when they have questions or concerns.
- Introduction to the law relating to the use of legal and illegal drugs.

Skills

- Personal strengths and weaknesses.
- Handling social relationships.
- Expressing and communicating feelings and concerns about drugs and their use.
- Identifying risks.
- Coping with peer influences.
- Communicating with adults.
- Making choices and knowing the consequences of actions.

Attitudes

- Valuing oneself and other people.
- Attitudes towards the use of alcohol and tobacco within the home and the wider society.
- Parents' and teachers' reactions to drugs and their use.
- Attitudes and beliefs about different drugs, the people who use/misuse them, and why they use them.
- Responses to media and advertising presentations of medicines, alcohol, tobacco and other legal drugs.

The effects of everyday substances, substances that can help or harm the body (eg medicines) and the safe storage of household substances (eg bleach and cleaning fluids) should provide the teaching focus for pupils at Key Stage 1. Within Key Stage 2 the drugs programme should focus on a range of substances, including alcohol and tobacco, illegal and prescribed drugs, and the misuse of volatile substances (eg glue, aerosols and petrol). The harmful and beneficial impact these substances can have on their body and how to make responsible, informed decisions relating to medicines, alcohol, tobacco and other substances and drugs. The emphasis will vary in order to reflect the local situation and the age and maturity of pupils.

The delivery of drug education occurs in class teaching, national curriculum subjects, PSHE lessons, assemblies and presentations. Within other subjects and through the curriculum there are many opportunities, within both key stages, to create cross curricular links and consider drug related issues from a variety of perspectives.

The following principles are applied during drug education delivery;

- Ground rules negotiated for the discussion of this sensitive issue, including disclosure, confidentiality, and child protection issues.
- An assessment of where students are at in terms of e.g. knowledge, language, skills, interest and anxieties.
- A range of teaching methods used, in order to encourage the interactive participation of all students.
- Only comprehensive, accurate, up-to-date and unbiased information will be provided.
- Students given an opportunity to reflect on their learning.

Evaluation, based on the aims and learning outcomes of the programme, is carried out with the students and staff at appropriate points and at the end of each year.

6. Smoking

In accordance with part 1 of the Health Act 2006, Morville Primary School is a smoke free environment. This includes all buildings, out-buildings, playgrounds, playing fields and sheltered areas.

Parents, visitors and staff must not smoke on school grounds and will avoid smoking in front of pupils and/or encouraging pupils to smoke.

Pupils are not permitted to bring smoking or nicotine products onto the premises. This includes, but is not limited to cigarettes, e-cigarettes, lighters, matches and pipes.

In the interest of health and hygiene, smoking will not be permitted at, or around, the school gates.

7. Legal drugs and prescribed medicines

We understand that some pupils may require medications that have been prescribed by a doctor, or other health professional.

Parents have the primary responsibility for their child's health and should provide the school with all relevant information about their child's medical condition.

Medicines should only be brought onto the premises if it would be detrimental to the child's health if medicines were not administered during their time at the school.

The school will only accept medicines which have been prescribed by a doctor, dentist, nurse or pharmacist.

Medicines must be provided in the original container as dispensed and must include the prescriber's instructions for administration and dosage.

Further guidance can be found in the school's **Administering Medication Policy**.

8. Solvents

Pupils are not permitted to bring solvent based products onto the premises including, but not limited to, aerosol deodorants, compressed air, and aerosol hairspray.

The school will ensure that potentially hazardous solvents are stored safely and pupils will be supervised if they are required to come into contact with them.

More information can be found in our **COSHH Policy**.

9. Persons found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol

Staff members found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol whilst on school premises will be disciplined in line with their contract of employment.

Visitors to the school found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol on school grounds will be escorted from the premises. The **headteacher** has the authority to ban persistent offenders from the school.

Unless it is a medical emergency, or where there is aggressive or threatening behaviour, pupils found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol whilst on school premises will be removed from class and escorted to the **headteacher's office**, where they will be assessed.

The pupil's parent will be asked to remove the pupil from the premises.

The pupil will remain in the **headteacher's office** until their parent arrives.

If necessary, a search will be conducted.

If necessary, a breathalyser test will be administered.

10. Medical emergencies

In drug related medical emergencies, trained first aiders will be summoned.

A teacher will remain with the casualty until the trained first aider arrives.

Other pupils will be removed from the immediate area, as soon as is reasonably practicable.

Following assessment by the first aider, a decision will be made to ascertain whether an ambulance will be called.

The pupil's parents will be telephoned and told about the incident.

If the pupil is felt to be at risk, the **Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy** will come into effect and social services will be contacted.

All accidents and incidents, including near misses or dangerous occurrences, will be reported as soon as possible following the school's **Health and Safety Policy**.

11. Threatening behaviour

Aggressive and threatening behaviour by pupils, staff or visitors under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be taken very seriously.

Where aggressive and/or threatening behaviour is displayed, Morville Primary School will not hesitate in contacting the police.

Any pupil, staff member or visitor displaying aggressive and/or threatening behaviour will be removed from the premises.

In the case of pupils, parents will be contacted.

12. Searching

Staff members may use common law to search pupils with their consent for any item.

Staff members may ask any student to turn out their pockets.

Staff members may search any student's backpack or locker.

Under part 2, section 2 of the Education Act 2011, teachers are authorised by the headteacher to search for any prohibited item including, but not limited to tobacco and cigarette papers, as well as illegal drugs and alcohol, without the consent of the pupil if they have reasonable grounds for suspecting that the pupil is in possession of a prohibited item.

Searches will be conducted by a same sex member of staff with another same sex staff member as a witness, unless there is a risk that serious harm will be caused to a person if the search is not done immediately, and where it is not practicable to summon another member of staff.

Staff members may require a pupil to remove outer clothing including hats, scarves, boots, coats and scarves.

Pupils' possessions will only be searched in the presence of the pupil and another member of staff unless there is a risk that serious harm will be caused to a person if the search is not done immediately, and where it is not practicable to summon another member of staff.

Staff members may use such force as is reasonable given the circumstances when conducting a search for alcohol, illegal drugs or tobacco products.

Any staff member, except for security staff, may refuse to conduct a search.

A staff member carrying out the search can confiscate anything they have reasonable grounds for suspecting is a prohibited item. This includes "legal highs" and other potentially harmful materials which cannot immediately be identified.

13. Controlled substances

Morville Primary School has a zero tolerance policy on illegal drugs.

Following the identification and confiscation of a controlled substance, a staff member will seal the sample in a plastic bag and include details of the date and time of the confiscation and the name of any witness/witnesses present.

The staff member will store the sample in a secure location.

The incident will be reported immediately to the police who will collect the sample and then deal with it in line with agreed protocols.

Morville Primary School will not hesitate in giving the police the name of the pupil, from whom the drugs were taken.

A full incident report will be completed and submitted to the **headteacher**.

Any further measures will be undertaken in line with the school's **Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy**.

Where controlled substances are found on school trips away from the school premises, parents of the pupil, as well as local police, will be notified.

14. Discipline

Pupils involved in drug and/or alcohol situations on school premises will be disciplined as per the school's disciplinary procedure and, where appropriate, the police will be informed.

Teachers and staff members involved in drug and/or alcohol situations on school premises will be disciplined as per their contract of employment and, where appropriate, the police will be informed.

Visitors involved in drug and/or alcohol situations on school premises will be banned from entering school premises indefinitely and, where appropriate, the police will be informed.

15. Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the **headteacher**.