

Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug Education Policy

Aims

To provide a programme of education throughout the school which is effective, identifies problems and provides students with access to advice and counselling.

Objectives

- To identify those students at risk.
- To provide unbiased information concerning the nature, risks and effects of alcohol, tobacco and a range of commonly abused drugs.
- To provide a programme of education which is appropriate to the needs of the students and develops into a co-ordinated and coherent spiral development.
- To promote full debate and discussion regarding the use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs in society.
- To provide students with the means of making informed decisions and the social skills to cope with peer group pressure situations they might later encounter.
- To open up channels of communication to and from all external agencies concerned with this type of education (including:- parents, youth service, police, drug counsellors and support groups).
- To provide students with access to confidential counselling and advice (both internally and externally).
- To raise staff awareness of the drugs being used in the community and enable them to recognise possible symptoms of abuse.
- To have a named member of staff as a focal point for all co-ordination.
- To have clear guidelines for staff regarding what to do if they suspect students of being involved with drugs (pass information to Co-ordinator).
- To have guidelines for staff on what to do if students are caught in possession of drugs (confiscate suspicious substances and immediately pass them, plus relevant information, to Co-ordinator/Headteacher for further action).
- To have a mechanism for informing and referring to appropriate authorities when it is considered that students are endangering their health or education (staff to follow guidelines in CHILD PROTECTION Policy & mechanisms).

Reviewed July 2010